



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 159

WASHINGTON, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2013

No. 26

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 25, 2013.

I hereby appoint the Honorable STEVE WOMACK to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Eternal God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As the people's House reassembles, our Nation faces a complicated and, to many, a confusing economic issue.

Bless each Member of this assembly with the wisdom, knowledge, and understanding needed to meet the interests of the citizens of the United States.

Renew in us all the adoption by Your Spirit, that we may affirm our freedoms, not only with conviction in the way we understand others, but in ourselves by actions proven beyond words.

Bless us this day and every day. May all that is done here this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on

agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms FOXX. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. FOXX led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

THE PRESIDENT'S SEQUESTRATION

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in four short days, thousands of jobs will fall victim to the President's sequester. It is no secret that the very proposal for sequestration originated in the White House. And what has the President done to help Congress solve the mess he created by reaching a solution? He has traveled across the country and made speeches from the White House campaigning for tax increases.

In Friday's Washington Post, Bob Woodward described the President's approach to raise taxes as a substitute

for the sequester as "he is moving the goalposts." The best way that our country can avert this devastating policy, which will destroy jobs and place our national security at risk, is for the President to put the interests of the American people before party politics.

House Republicans have voted twice to replace the sequester with common-sense reforms. Time is running out. With just days to go, the President should begin working with House Republicans by engaging in the legislative process.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

(Mr. WAXMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, the non-partisan Government Accountability Office took historic action this month. For the first time ever, GAO put climate change on its high-risk list because of the serious threat it poses to the taxpayer.

It makes sense. Just look at Superstorm Sandy and the droughts and heat waves we have recently endured. Extreme weather events have cost our Nation more than \$180 billion over the last two years.

That's why today the cochairs of the Bicameral Task Force on Climate Change are writing to 69 inspectors general across the Federal Government. We are asking for their help in assessing whether government entities are doing all they can to confront this threat.

As a member of the Safe Climate Caucus, I believe it's time we take this issue seriously. If we don't, we will leave our children an unstable climate and disaster costs that they will not be able to afford.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H601

THE PRESIDENT'S HEALTH CARE TAKEOVER BRINGS MORE CHAOS

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, the Affordable Care Act becomes more apparent every day that goes by, and the problems that are contained therein. Indeed, the President's takeover of health care is delivering more chaos to our health care system.

We have 26 States that are not going to be participating in State exchanges, so a Federal exchange will be set up in those States. The complex eligibility process that citizens will have to go through, the exchange of personal information with Federal agencies that they are going to be required to provide, is truly staggering. Once an individual submits an application to an exchange, the information is then shared with Health and Human Services, the Social Security Administration, the Department of Homeland Security, the Treasury Department, and the IRS.

Enrollees will not only have to submit all of their information when they first enroll, but they will have to resubmit every year.

The President's law intends that exchanges will be ready by October 1. Let me tell you, the five Federal agencies that are involved in this are not forthcoming with the information that they're, in fact, on track. And, in fact, the informatics piece, the information piece that is supposed to be ready when this is all switched on in October is likely not to be ready.

There was a better way to do this. Republicans had better ideas. Governors had better ideas. The administration simply would not listen.

SEQUESTRATION

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, we have now entered the final week before the dangerous, arbitrary, and irrational policy of sequestration, which Republicans proposed first in their cut, cap, and balance bill in July of 2011.

If I were the majority leader, Mr. Speaker, that policy would not go into effect. Budget discipline is absolutely necessary, but damaging job growth in our economy to do so is self-defeating.

The only responsible way forward is for Republicans and Democrats to work together to achieve a balanced solution to deficits that can turn off the sequestration. House and Senate Democrats have each proposed balanced alternatives that combine smart, targeted cuts in spending and tax expenditures. I would hope the majority leader, Mr. CANTOR, would bring that to the floor.

While many Republicans have been praising the sequester as a viable path forward, Democrats recognize this mindless policy for the danger it is.

I urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, Mr. Speaker, to recognize the sequester's consequences, and to work with Democrats to find an alternative, or, if that can't be done, to abandon this reckless policy.

We only have 4 days left to go, and our country's overall well-being depends on it.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to call up H.R. 699, which is the balanced Democratic alternative to sequestration, which I know we have ample time to debate over the next few days and, hopefully, send to the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair cannot entertain that request without appropriate clearance from both sides.

THE PRESIDENT'S SEQUESTER

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the comments of our colleague from Maryland, but I think he needs to direct them to the President, and I am going to speak to that in my 1-minute.

The editorial page of The Washington Post is not known for being critical of the President. This weekend, however, it published an op-ed by one of their most veteran reporters which should establish once and for all that the sequester—arbitrary across-the-board spending cuts that go into effect March 1—was the brainchild of the Obama administration.

Woodward writes that at 2:30 on the afternoon of July 27, 2011, White House officials Jack Lew and Rob Nabors brought up the idea of the sequester in a meeting with the Democrat Senate Majority Leader HARRY REID. Even more notable is Woodward's assertion that "Obama personally approved of the plan," which was presented.

Jack Lew is now the President's nominee for Treasury Secretary, and Woodward reports that in his confirmation hearings in the Senate, when asked about proposing the sequester, Lew went into "denial mode." The American people are tired of denial mode, Mr. Speaker. We need a serious plan to replace the President's sequester, and it needs to come from the other side of the aisle.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 5 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1705

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro

tempore (Mr. HULTGREN) at 5 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on the motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record vote on the postponed question will be taken later.

NEIL A. ARMSTRONG FLIGHT RESEARCH CENTER AND HUGH L. DRYDEN AERONAUTICAL TEST RANGE DESIGNATION ACT

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 667) to redesignate the Dryden Flight Research Center as the Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center and the Western Aeronautical Test Range as the Hugh L. Dryden Aeronautical Test Range.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 667

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. REDESIGNATION OF DRYDEN FLIGHT RESEARCH CENTER.

(a) REDESIGNATION.—The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Hugh L. Dryden Flight Research Center in Edwards, California, is redesignated as the "NASA Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the flight research center referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "NASA Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center".

SEC. 2. REDESIGNATION OF WESTERN AERONAUTICAL TEST RANGE.

(a) REDESIGNATION.—The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Western Aeronautical Test Range in California is redesignated as the "NASA Hugh L. Dryden Aeronautical Test Range".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the test range referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "NASA Hugh L. Dryden Aeronautical Test Range".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from Maryland (Ms. EDWARDS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 667, the bill now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from California, KEVIN MCCARTHY, the majority whip and, I might add, the originator and author of this bill.

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. I would like to thank the chairman for his work.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 667, to honor two great pioneers in American aeronautics and space exploration, Dr. Hugh Dryden and Astronaut Neil Armstrong.

Neil Armstrong was a Navy fighter pilot, engineer, test pilot, astronaut, and educator who was always proud to serve this Nation.

Before joining the Astronaut Corps in 1962 and eventually taking the first small step for a man, Armstrong served as a test pilot for 7 years at what is presently called the NASA Dryden Flight Research Center in Kern County, California, which I am proud to represent. Armstrong flew thousands of hours as a test pilot there, mainly in experimental jets and high-speed rocket planes. He was also part of the team in the early 1960s who developed the Lunar Landing Research Vehicle used to train our astronauts on how to safely land on the Moon.

After the success of the Apollo 11 mission, Armstrong remained an active contributor to the aeronautical research programs at the Flight Research Center. Most notably of these was the digital fly-by-wire program, which is recognized today as a far-reaching technological breakthrough. He returned to visit the center in the years that followed and, throughout his life, remained a strong advocate of flight research.

H.R. 667 would rename the NASA Center in his honor, the Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center.

H.R. 667 would also honor Dr. Hugh Dryden's contributions to aerospace engineering that made many of Neil Armstrong's career achievements possible.

Dryden was a key figure in the development of America's aerospace programs from the early part of the 20th century to the much more complex programs that are still ongoing at NASA Flight Research Center, Edwards Air Force Base, and China Lake Naval Air Station in my district.

He was an early pioneer in aerodynamics over the first half of the 20th century and enabled many scientific breakthroughs. When NASA was created in 1958, Dr. Dryden was chosen to be its first deputy administrator, focusing his energies on the programs that allowed our country to explore space and send our astronauts to the Moon.

H.R. 667 will memorialize both men by redesignating the Dryden Flight Research Center as the Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center and naming the center's test range as the Hugh L. Dryden Aeronautical Test Range.

□ 1710

Edwards Air Force Base, Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, and NASA Flight Research Center in eastern Kern County remain a hub of scientific discovery, aeronautic innovation and space exploration. I look forward to many more groundbreaking achievements from the men and women inspired by the legacy of Neil Armstrong and Hugh Dryden.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 667 is a fitting tribute to Armstrong and Dryden, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill to celebrate the remarkable lives of both men.

Ms EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 667 has been offered to redesignate the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Dryden Flight Research Center as the Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center. The bill would also rename the Western Aeronautical Test Range as the Hugh L. Dryden Aeronautical Test Range.

While I plan to support this bill, it is a bit unfortunate since it honors one aerospace pioneer by stripping away the honor previously extended to another worthy pioneer, Hugh L. Dryden.

Dr. Hugh Latimer Dryden was director of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, NACA, from 1947 until the creation of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration where he was named deputy administrator.

President Johnson said of his passing that it was:

A reason for national sorrow. No soldier ever performed his duty with more bravery, and no statesman ever charted new courses with more dedication than Hugh Dryden.

Whenever the first American spaceman sets foot on the Moon or finds a new trail to a new star, he will know that Hugh Dryden was one of those who give him knowledge and illumination.

NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center in Edwards, California, was named in his honor on March 26, 1976. The center is NASA's premier site for aeronautical flight research. At the dedication ceremony, then-NASA Administrator, James Fletcher, stated:

It is most fitting that this Flight Research Center, with its unique and highly specialized capability for solving aerospace problems, should memorialize the genius of Hugh Dryden.

Neil Armstrong joined NACA in 1955 following his service as a naval aviator. Over the next 17 years, he was an engineer, test pilot, astronaut and administrator for NACA and its successor agency, NASA.

As a research pilot, he flew over 200 different models of aircraft, such as the storied X-15. He transferred to astronaut status in 1962 and was command pilot for the Gemini 8 mission on which he performed the first successful docking of two vehicles in space. As spacecraft commander for Apollo 11, Neil Armstrong successfully led the first manned lunar landing. His service and

his famous words, "that's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind," inspired millions around the world, including this Congresswoman sitting in front of a black and white television.

Mr. Speaker, it's clear that Mr. Armstrong never sought the honor of having a NASA center named after him while alive. In truth, his name will live on throughout history whether or not we ever name anything for him. I doubt, in this era of declining funding for NASA, that either Neil Armstrong or Hugh Dryden would want a single precious dollar to be spent on a cosmetic facility name change when that money could be spent instead on fulfilling NASA's mission to reach for the stars. And, in fact, when Neil Armstrong appeared before our Science Committee, he almost said exactly that.

While I expect that we will approve this legislation today, I hope that all the Members who vote to honor Neil Armstrong today will remember his testimony before the House Science, Space and Technology Committee during which he said:

The key to the success of American investment in space exploration is a clearly articulated plan and strategy supported by the administration and the Congress and implemented with all the consistency that the vagaries of the budget will allow. Such a program will motivate the young toward excellence, support a vital industry and earn the respect of the world.

I hope we can honor his words. But his words were foreshadowed by Hugh Dryden in a letter he wrote to Senator Robert Kerr, chairman of the Senate Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences in 1961:

The development of space science and technologies strengthen our whole industrial base and serves as insurance against technological obsolescence. Education will profit. The discipline of cooperation in a great national effort may well be the instrument of great social gain.

If the same Members who vote to rename these two NASA facilities today will commit to working in the coming months and years for those exploration goals to which both men devoted their lives, then we will have truly honored both of their legacies in an enduring and a meaningful way.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from California, Majority Whip KEVIN MCCARTHY, for honoring Neil Armstrong and NASA Deputy Administrator Hugh Dryden with this bill. Not many people know the relationship between these two men. Hugh Dryden was the visionary behind NASA's X-15 rocket plane and the Apollo program. Neil Armstrong was the one who flew the spacecraft that Dryden envisioned.

The X-15 rocket plane set many speed and altitude records in the early 1960s. Hugh Dryden was the engineer

and program manager for that spacecraft which Neil Armstrong flew seven times.

While everyone knows that Neil Armstrong was the first man to set foot on the Moon, not many people know Hugh Dryden's role. The Soviets had launched the first satellite Sputnik in 1957, and cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first man in space in April 1961.

President John F. Kennedy wanted to demonstrate American ingenuity and technical superiority over the Soviet Union, so he convened the National Space Council. President Kennedy asked for their advice on the best way for America to respond to the Soviet's string of firsts in space exploration. In that meeting, Hugh Dryden recommended to the President that the goal of putting a man on the Moon within 10 years was achievable and something the American people could rally behind.

The rest is history. President Kennedy grabbed Hugh Dryden's idea and addressed a joint session of Congress the very next month. The Apollo program was the brainchild of Hugh Dryden. Neal Armstrong turned that dream into reality by making that "one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind" on another world almost 240,000 miles away. Hugh Dryden was not able to see his dream become reality, as he died in 1965. And, unfortunately, Neil Armstrong passed away last August.

It is important for us to honor both men's legacies by naming the Flight Research Center after Neil Armstrong and the surrounding Test Range after Hugh Dryden. With this bill, we reaffirm that America is filled with dreamers like Hugh Dryden, and doers like Neil Armstrong, who—working together—can "shoot for the Moon." Thanks to Mr. MCCARTHY, we honor their legacy, and that reminds us that America always needs to think about new frontiers.

I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL), former chairman of this committee.

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mr. MCCARTHY for reintroducing this bill to redesignate NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center, which is co-located with Edwards Air Force Base in California, as the Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center. This bill, H.R. 667, would also rename the Western Aeronautical Test Range as the Hugh L. Dryden Aeronautical Test Range.

Neil Armstrong, everybody will say—and it's so true, he needs absolutely no introduction—people know who Neil Armstrong is. He covered the country. He has given of his time. He's an American hero, and he is one who never took personal credit for his accomplishments. Anytime he was speaking about the success of the Apollo 11 mission, he always gave recognition to the teams

of engineers, technicians, and scientists at NASA and the industry. He was quiet, thoughtful, and deliberate, choosing his words carefully, whether testifying before a congressional committee, giving a speech, or sharing a moment with a friend.

□ 1720

Last May of this year, I was honored to have Neil, along with General Tom Stafford and Gene Cernan, visit Rockwall, Texas, my hometown in Texas, and address graduating high school seniors from the area's public schools and private schools. Neil spoke to a packed auditorium of seniors and their families and then generously took time for photos with all the graduating classes. This was such a magnanimous gesture on his side and yet typical of his commitment to inspiring other generations of students to pursue fields in science, space, and technology. These Rockwall County students and their families will remember his visit forever, and this was made even more meaningful when Neil passed away just a few months later and when I received a letter from him 3 days after he died.

Naming the Dryden Flight Center after Neil is very appropriate. After graduating from college, he joined NASA's predecessor agency, the National Advisory Council on Aeronautics, and soon found himself at NASA's High-Speed Flight Station located at Edwards, which would in time become the Dryden Flight Research Center. They were both great friends. He spent 7 years there flying a variety of new-design and high-performance aircraft, including the seven flights at the control of the X-15.

Naming the Western Aeronautical Test Range after Dr. Hugh L. Dryden is also appropriate. Dr. Dryden, as a close friend of Neil's, held the position of Director of the National Advisory Council of Aeronautics from 1947 until it was renamed NASA in 1958, then served as Deputy Director of NASA until his death in 1965. He pioneered research of airfoils near the speed of sound and the problems of airflow and turbulence. He greatly contributed to the designs of wings for aircraft, including the P-51 Mustang and other World War II aircraft.

H.R. 667 honors the life and legacy of two great Americans: Neil Armstrong and Dr. Hugh Dryden.

With that, I urge Members to support this bill.

Ms. EDWARDS. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT), who has long been an able spokesman on the issues related to space.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I proudly stand with my good friend and fellow Californian, Majority Whip KEVIN MCCARTHY, in strong support of this legislation we have both championed, H.R. 667, which will redesignate

NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center as the Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center and Western Aeronautical Test Range as the Hugh L. Dryden Aeronautical Test Range.

One of the great benefits of public service here in the United States House of Representatives is the people you meet in all walks of life. I had the high honor and privilege of meeting Mr. Armstrong on several occasions before he passed away on August 25, 2012, especially when I was chairman of the Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee on Science.

Given his place as a revered global icon, Neil never sought the limelight, as Mr. HALL has said. He never lost his unassuming manner, his nature as a midwesterner, and values that his Ohio roots instilled in him. He was just a wonderful person.

Those of us who were old enough to witness firsthand when he took his first step on the surface of the Moon will never forget the great sense of pride in our country and inspiration in the ability he placed in mankind. There are few events in history that have had such profound and positive impact, transcending generations across the globe. H.R. 667 is just one way we can pay tribute to this great American hero.

This bill will accomplish three important goals: one, to honor Neil A. Armstrong, who served as an experimental research test pilot at the center from 1955 to 1962; to emphasize the contributions of that center to NASA's current space exploration mission; and to memorialize the extraordinary career of Dr. Hugh L. Dryden by naming the aeronautical test range, approximately 12,000 square miles of special-use airspace, in his honor.

As was said: That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind. This is a small step to recognize both Neil Armstrong and Hugh Dryden.

I urge my House colleagues to support passage of H.R. 667.

Ms. EDWARDS. I'd inquire if the gentleman has additional speakers?

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I believe we have one additional speaker.

Ms. EDWARDS. I'll continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I will recognize the gentleman from California (Mr. ROHRABACHER) for as much time as he may consume, and I also note that he is the vice chairman of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

Mr. ROHRABACHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 667 as a way for us to honor the memories of Neil Armstrong and Dr. Hugh Dryden.

These two men, these two 20th century frontiersmen, technologists, and, yes, visionaries, these two men who led us and, thus, led our country into a new era of human history, the era of aerospace when the technology of mankind uplifted mankind into the air and then into the heavens, this is an era that we are just now seeing the very

first steps, and these were the men who pushed the frontier and made those first steps.

Neil Armstrong's name will be one of the few iconic names from our era that are found in history books 1,000 years from now. Most people know him as a brave astronaut who commanded Apollo 11; but before those days, Neil Armstrong was an outstanding aeronautical engineer and a great pilot for the U.S. Navy and for the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics, the NACA, a precursor to NASA. Neil flew over 900 missions at the NACA High-Speed Air Station, and that very center is what we seek to name in his honor today.

At the same time, we wish to continue to recognize the major and significant contributions of Dr. Hugh Dryden, one of the world's greatest aeronautical scientists who provided critical leadership to the NACA and is reported to be the man who gave President Kennedy the idea that a Moon landing was the right benchmark for America to set as we worked to catch up with the Soviet Union in space.

Today we honor these great men, and by supporting this legislation, we will continue to support them in every way and continue to support NASA in its test-flight mission.

Let us not forget so many people just associate NASA with space, and Neil Armstrong is one of those people. But as I've just pointed out, their work in developing new technology for aerospace and for jet engines and the design of airplanes has had a tremendous impact on our way of life and made America the great aerospace power in the world. So as we honor them today, we reconfirm our commitment to being the number one space power and the number one aerospace power on the planet.

Ms. EDWARDS. I'd inquire if the gentleman is prepared to close as well.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we are prepared to close. We have no other speakers, and I'm prepared to yield back the balance of my time after the gentlewoman from Maryland.

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased today that we've been able to bring forward H.R. 667.

Former Chairman HALL was here today, and we had an opportunity to do this in the last Congress. So hopefully, in honor of these two gentlemen, real tremendous patriots and heroes and pioneers, we will be able to bring forward H.R. 667 and rename the Dryden Center after Neil Armstrong. I'm grateful to be here to do that with our colleagues.

It is sad, however, that here we are on a Monday, prepared to honor these two great patriots of NASA, of this Nation, and at the same time, by the close of the week, on March 1, enable a sequester to take effect which could result in the loss of \$894 million from NASA's budget, a budget that would include science, technology, engineering,

investigation of climate change, and all of the things that we need to prepare this next generation to be as inspired as our generation was with the exploits and exploration of Hugh Dryden and Neil Armstrong. Yet here we are.

□ 1730

So I am pleased to go forward in supporting this legislation today, making sure that on a Monday we are able to take a vote to rename these two centers and to honor these two pioneers. But I am sad that here in this Congress we are also prepared to cut millions of dollars in a budget that should be spent on the kind of science and exploration that both of these gentlemen pioneered.

When we think of what needs to be done for the next generation in order to inspire future scientists and those who will work in technology—our engineers, our math students—we regret that they won't see that same kind of inspiration because of the irresponsibility of this Congress. I want to say how pleased I am as I look forward to working with Chairman SMITH, because I know of his commitment to science and to technology, and I know of his commitment to NASA and to moving forward an agency that's going to propel us in 21st century space science and in aeronautics, but this is not the way to do it.

While we do our renaming today in honor of Hugh Dryden and in honor of Neil Armstrong, we will take an ax hammer to NASA's budget on March 1, at the end of this week, taking out \$894 million from an already strapped budget. I dare say that future generations will not be inspired by what this Congress will do, will not be inspired by what the majority is doing by not allowing us and enabling us to sit down and actually negotiate in a way that is going to result in our making the kind of investment in the 21st century that our young people deserve.

Again, I am pleased to be able to redesignate the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Dryden Flight Research Center as the "Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center" and to rename the Western Aeronautical Test Range as the "Hugh L. Dryden Aeronautical Test Range"—renaming but slashing a budget.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. I yield myself 1 minute.

Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentlewoman from Maryland—who is also the ranking member of the Space Subcommittee—for her comments, particularly for her personal comments, and I certainly share her concerns about the severe cuts that NASA and our space exploration programs might take if the sequestration goes into effect, but I also feel compelled to point out that there is a way to avoid that sequestration.

The House of Representatives, under the Republican leadership, has already

passed two bills that would take the place of the sequestration, and the Senate has yet to act. After all, the sequestration was the President's idea to start with, so I hope we will hear from the President and the Senate various suggestions as to how the sequestration can be avoided, but the House has certainly done its job to avoid those heavy-handed cuts.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 667.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 34 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HULTGREN) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order: agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, by the yeas and nays; and suspending the rules and passing H.R. 667, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The second electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 303, nays 91, answered "present" 1, not voting 36, as follows:

[Roll No. 46]

YEAS—303

Aderholt	Garcia	Miller, Gary
Alexander	Garrett	Miller, George
Amodei	Gerlach	Moore
Andrews	Gibbs	Mullin
Bachmann	Goodlatte	Mulvaney
Bachus	Gosar	Murphy (FL)
Barber	Gowdy	Murphy (PA)
Barletta	Granger	Nadler
Barr	Grayson	Napolitano
Barrow (GA)	Green, Al	Negrete McLeod
Beatty	Griffith (VA)	Neugebauer
Becerra	Grimm	Noem
Bentivolio	Guthrie	Nugent
Bera (CA)	Hahn	Nunes
Black	Hall	Nunnelee
Blackburn	Hanabusa	O'Rourke
Blumenauer	Harper	Olson
Bonamici	Harris	Palazzo
Bonner	Hartzler	Pascarell
Brady (TX)	Hastings (WA)	Payne
Braley (IA)	Heck (WA)	Pelosi
Bridenstine	Hensarling	Perlmutter
Brooks (AL)	Higgins	Perry
Brooks (IN)	Hinojosa	Petri
Brown (GA)	Holding	Pingree (ME)
Brown (FL)	Holt	Pitts
Brownley (CA)	Honda	Pocan
Bucshon	Horsford	Polis
Bustos	Huelskamp	Pompeo
Butterfield	Huffman	Posey
Calvert	Huizenga (MI)	Price (NC)
Camp	Hultgren	Quigley
Cantor	Hunter	Rangel
Capito	Hurt	Reed
Capps	Issa	Reichert
Cárdenas	Jackson Lee	Rice (SC)
Carney	Jenkins	Roby
Cartwright	Johnson (GA)	Rogers (AL)
Cassidy	Johnson, Sam	Rogers (KY)
Castro (TX)	Jones	Rogers (MI)
Chabot	Kaptur	Rohrabacher
Cicilline	Keating	Rokita
Clay	Kelly	Rooney
Cleaver	Kennedy	Ros-Lehtinen
Clyburn	Kildee	Roskam
Cohen	Kilmer	Ross
Cole	Kind	Rothfus
Collins (GA)	King (IA)	Roybal-Allard
Collins (NY)	King (NY)	Royce
Connolly	Kingston	Ruiz
Conyers	Kirkpatrick	Runyan
Cook	Kline	Ruppersberger
Cooper	Kuster	Ryan (WI)
Cramer	Labrador	Sánchez, Linda
Crawford	LaMalfa	T.
Crenshaw	Lamborn	Scalise
Cuellar	Lance	Schiff
Cummings	Lankford	Schneider
Daines	Larsen (WA)	Schock
Davis (CA)	Larson (CT)	Schrader
DeGette	Lipinski	Schwartz
Delaney	Loeb sack	Schweikert
DeLauro	Lofgren	Scott (VA)
DelBene	Long	Scott, Austin
Denham	Lowenthal	Scott, David
DeSantis	Lowe y	Sensenbrenner
DesJarlais	Luetkemeyer	Serrano
Diaz-Balart	Lujan Grisham	Sessions
Dingell	(NM)	Shea-Porter
Doyle	Luján, Ben Ray	Sherman
Duckworth	(NM)	Shimkus
Duffy	Lummis	Shuster
Duncan (SC)	Maloney,	Simpson
Duncan (TN)	Carolyn	Smith (NJ)
Edwards	Maloney, Sean	Smith (TX)
Ellison	Marino	Southerland
Ellmers	Massie	Speier
Engel	McCarthy (CA)	Stewart
Enyart	McCarthy (NY)	Stivers
Eshoo	McCaul	Stockman
Esty	McClintock	Stutzman
Farenthold	McCollum	Swalwell (CA)
Farr	McHenry	Takano
Fattah	McIntyre	Thompson (PA)
Fincher	McKeon	Thornberry
Fleischmann	McKinley	Tiberi
Fleming	McMorris	Tierney
Flores	Rodgers	Titus
Fortenberry	McNerney	Tonko
Foster	Meadows	Tsongas
Frankel (FL)	Meehan	Upton
Franks (AZ)	Meeks	Van Hollen
Frelinghuysen	Messer	Vargas
Gabbard	Mica	Wagner
Gallego	Michaud	Walberg
Garamendi	Miller (MI)	Walden

Walorski	Weber (TX)	Wilson (FL)
Walz	Webster (FL)	Wilson (SC)
Wasserman	Welch	Wolf
Schultz	Wenstrup	Womack
Waters	Westmoreland	Yarmuth
Watt	Whitfield	Yoho
Waxman	Williams	Young (IN)

NAYS—91

Amash	Herrera Beutler	Poe (TX)
Bass	Himes	Price (GA)
Benishek	Hoyer	Radel
Bishop (NY)	Hudson	Rahall
Burgess	Israel	Renacci
Capuano	Jeffries	Ribble
Carson (IN)	Johnson (OH)	Rigell
Carter	Johnson, E. B.	Ryan (OH)
Castor (FL)	Jordan	Salmon
Chaffetz	Kinzing er (IL)	Sanchez, Loretta
Chu	Langevin	Sarbanes
Coffman	Latham	Schakowsky
Conaway	Latta	Sewell (AL)
Cotton	Levin	Sinema
Courtney	LoBiondo	Sires
Crowley	Marchant	Slaughter
Davis, Rodney	Markey	Terry
DeFazio	Matheson	Thompson (CA)
Dent	Matsui	Thompson (MS)
Fitzpatrick	McDermott	Tipton
Foxx	McGovern	Turner
Fudge	Miller (FL)	Valadao
Gardner	Neal	Veasey
Gibson	Nolan	Vela
Graves (GA)	Pallone	Velázquez
Graves (MO)	Paulsen	Visclosky
Green, Gene	Pearce	Wittman
Griffin (AR)	Peters (CA)	Woodall
Grijalva	Peters (MI)	Yoder
Hastings (FL)	Peterson	
Heck (NV)	Pittenger	

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—1

Owens

NOT VOTING—36

Barton	Davis, Danny	Lynch
Bilirakis	Deutch	Maffei
Bishop (GA)	Doggett	Meng
Bishop (UT)	Forbes	Moran
Boustany	Gingrey (GA)	Pastor (AZ)
Brady (PA)	Gohmert	Richmond
Buchanan	Gutierrez	Roe (TN)
Campbell	Hanna	Rush
Clarke	Joyce	Smith (NE)
Coble	Lee (CA)	Smith (WA)
Costa	Lewis	Young (AK)
Culberson	Lucas	Young (FL)

□ 1852

Messrs. CROWLEY, GRIFFIN of Arkansas, and Ms. SEWELL of Alabama changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. GARCIA and TONKO changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

NEIL A. ARMSTRONG FLIGHT RESEARCH CENTER AND HUGH L. DRYDEN AERONAUTICAL TEST RANGE DESIGNATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 667) to redesignate the Dryden Flight Research Center as the Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center and the Western Aeronautical Test Range as the Hugh L. Dryden Aeronautical Test Range, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 394, nays 0, answered “present” 1, not voting 36, as follows:

[Roll No. 47]

YEAS—394

Aderholt	Duckworth	Kildee
Alexander	Duffy	Kilmer
Amash	Duncan (SC)	Kind
Amodei	Duncan (TN)	King (IA)
Andrews	Edwards	King (NY)
Bachmann	Ellison	Kingston
Bachus	Ellmers	Kinzing er (IL)
Barber	Engel	Kirkpatrick
Barletta	Enyart	Kline
Barr	Eshoo	Kuster
Barrow (GA)	Esty	Labrador
Bass	Farenthold	LaMalfa
Beatty	Farr	Lamborn
Becerra	Fattah	Lance
Benishek	Fincher	Langevin
Bentivolio	Fitzpatrick	Lankford
Bera (CA)	Fleischmann	Larsen (WA)
Bishop (NY)	Fleming	Larson (CT)
Bishop (UT)	Flores	Latham
Black	Fortenberry	Latta
Blackburn	Foster	Levin
Blumenauer	Foxx	Lewis
Bonamici	Frankel (FL)	Lipinski
Bonner	Franks (AZ)	LoBiondo
Brady (TX)	Frelinghuysen	Loeb sack
Braley (IA)	Fudge	Lofgren
Bridenstine	Gabbard	Long
Brooks (AL)	Gallego	Lowenthal
Brooks (IN)	Garamendi	Lowe y
Brown (GA)	Garcia	Luetkemeyer
Brown (FL)	Gardner	Lujan Grisham
Brownley (CA)	Garrett	(NM)
Bucshon	Gerlach	Luján, Ben Ray
Burgess	Gibbs	(NM)
Bustos	Gibson	Lummis
Butterfield	Gohmert	Maloney,
Calvert	Goodlatte	Carolyn
Camp	Gosar	Maloney, Sean
Cantor	Gowdy	Marchant
Capito	Granger	Marino
Capps	Graves (GA)	Markey
Capuano	Graves (MO)	Massie
Cárdenas	Grayson	Matheson
Carney	Green, Al	Matsui
Carson (IN)	Green, Gene	McCarthy (CA)
Carter	Griffin (AR)	McCarthy (NY)
Cartwright	Griffith (VA)	McCaul
Cassidy	Grimm	McClintock
Castor (FL)	Guthrie	McCollum
Castro (TX)	Hahn	McDermott
Chabot	Hall	McGovern
Chaffetz	Hanabusa	McHenry
Chu	Harper	McIntyre
Cicilline	Harris	McKeon
Clay	Hartzler	McKinley
Cleaver	Hastings (FL)	McMorris
Clyburn	Hastings (WA)	Rodgers
Coffman	Heck (NV)	McNerney
Cohen	Heck (WA)	Meadows
Cole	Hensarling	Meehan
Collins (GA)	Herrera Beutler	Meeks
Collins (NY)	Higgins	Messer
Conaway	Himes	Mica
Connolly	Hinojosa	Michaud
Cook	Holding	Miller (FL)
Cooper	Holt	Miller (MI)
Costa	Honda	Miller, Gary
Cotton	Horsford	Miller, George
Courtney	Hoyer	Moore
Cramer	Hudson	Mullin
Crawford	Huelskamp	Mulvaney
Crenshaw	Huffman	Murphy (FL)
Crowley	Huizenga (MI)	Murphy (PA)
Cuellar	Hultgren	Nadler
Cummings	Hunter	Napolitano
Daines	Hurt	Neugebauer
Davis (CA)	Israel	Negrete McLeod
Davis, Rodney	Issa	Noem
DeFazio	Jackson Lee	Nolan
DeGette	Jeffries	Nugent
Delaney	Jenkins	Nunes
DeLauro	Johnson (GA)	Nunnelee
DelBene	Johnson (OH)	O'Rourke
Denham	Johnson, Sam	Olson
Dent	Jones	Owens
DeSantis	Jordan	Palazzo
DesJarlais	Kaptur	Pallone
Diaz-Balart	Keating	Pascarell
Dingell	Kelly	Paulsen
Doyle	Kennedy	

Payne	Ruppersberger	Thornberry
Pearce	Ryan (OH)	Tiberi
Pelosi	Ryan (WI)	Tierney
Perlmutter	Salmon	Tipton
Perry	Sánchez, Linda	Titus
Peters (CA)	T.	Tonko
Peters (MI)	Sanchez, Loretta	Tsongas
Peterson	Sarbanes	Turner
Petri	Scalise	Upton
Pingree (ME)	Schakowsky	Valadao
Pittenger	Schiff	Van Hollen
Pitts	Schneider	Vargas
Pocan	Schock	Veasey
Poe (TX)	Schrader	Vela
Polis	Schwartz	Velázquez
Pompeo	Schweikert	Visclosky
Posey	Scott (VA)	Wagner
Price (GA)	Scott, Austin	Walberg
Price (NC)	Scott, David	Walden
Quigley	Sensenbrenner	Walorski
Radel	Serrano	Walz
Rahall	Sessions	Wasserman
Rangel	Sewell (AL)	Schultz
Reed	Shea-Porter	Waters
Reichert	Sherman	Watt
Renacci	Shinkus	Waxman
Ribble	Shuster	Weber (TX)
Rice (SC)	Simpson	Webster (FL)
Rigell	Sinema	Welch
Roby	Sires	Wenstrup
Rogers (AL)	Slaughter	Westmoreland
Rogers (KY)	Smith (NJ)	Williams
Rogers (MI)	Smith (TX)	Wilson (FL)
Rohrabacher	Southerland	Wilson (SC)
Rokita	Speier	Wittman
Rooney	Stewart	Wolf
Ros-Lehtinen	Stivers	Womack
Roskam	Stockman	Woodall
Ross	Swalwell (CA)	Yarmuth
Rothfus	Takano	Yoder
Roybal-Allard	Terry	Yoho
Royce	Thompson (CA)	Young (IN)
Ruiz	Thompson (MS)	
Runyan	Thompson (PA)	

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Johnson, E. B.

NOT VOTING—36

Barton	Deutch	Meng
Bilirakis	Doggett	Moran
Bishop (GA)	Forbes	Pastor (AZ)
Boustany	Gingrey (GA)	Richmond
Brady (PA)	Grijalva	Roe (TN)
Buchanan	Gutierrez	Rush
Campbell	Hanna	Smith (NE)
Clarke	Joyce	Smith (WA)
Coble	Lee (CA)	Stutzman
Conyers	Lucas	Whitfield
Culberson	Lynch	Young (AK)
Davis, Danny	Maffei	Young (FL)

□ 1900

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. MAFFEI. Mr. Speaker, on roll-call No. 46 on approving the Journal, I am not recorded because I was absent due to a death in my family. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 47 on H.R. 667, I am not recorded because I was absent due to a death in my family. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING THE WOMEN OF TOMORROW MENTOR AND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I'm so pleased to recognize Women of

Tomorrow, a community organization that encourages and empowers at-risk high school girls to develop to their fullest potential. This south Florida-based organization was founded in 1997 by Jennifer Valoppi and is now in 43 Florida and 13 Michigan cities, helping 2,500 girls in over 100 high schools.

Women of Tomorrow has a bright future and will expand and connect girls across the country to mentoring scholarship opportunities. It's celebrating 16 years of teaching professional and personal skills.

Over 90 percent of the young ladies mentored by Women of Tomorrow improve their grade point average, graduate from high school, pursue higher education, and improve their self-esteem immensely.

The mentors and supporters of Women of Tomorrow work tirelessly to help teens, and I congratulate them on their Sweet 16.

SEQUESTRATION BY THE NUMBERS

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, we're hearing a lot about sequestration on the news, the American people are, and I just want to run down sequestration by the numbers.

You know, it's been 290 days since I and my Republican colleagues voted for the first of two bills to replace the President's sequestration with smarter, more responsible spending cuts that total \$1 trillion over 10 years. Now, why is that needed?

Well, Mr. Speaker, the official debt today is \$15.5 trillion. That's \$50,000 for every man, woman and child in this country. And that's not the real debt. The real debt, when you look at what's due with every living individual today with Medicare and Social Security, that's somewhere between 71 and \$72 trillion.

Economists just a week or so ago estimated that by the year 2020, interest alone, interest alone on an annual basis will be \$1 trillion. Sequestration, we're looking at \$85 billion out of a \$3 trillion budget.

I'm going to call on the Senate Democrats and President Obama for smarter, more bipartisan ways to replace the Obama sequester and to address making sure we don't leave a legacy of debt for our children, grandchildren, and all future generations.

TIME TO WORK TOGETHER

(Mr. ENYART asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ENYART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because I often hear from folks who work hard but are struggling to make ends meet. Families across southern Illinois are frustrated with the complacency in Washington.

Unless we act, nearly \$1.2 trillion will be cut from defense and domestic programs. Scott Air Force Base, a major economic hub, the largest employer in my district and a vital component of our national security, would be hard hit, as would important programs that keep our children and our Nation safe.

If sequestration goes into effect, 1 million jobs could be in jeopardy. It is irresponsible to let a failed plan with an artificial deadline and politically manufactured crisis cost our workers, our veterans, our men and women in uniform, our seniors, our small businesses their livelihood and risk our fragile economy.

It's time for Congress to set aside partisanship and to work together to produce a comprehensive solution that responsibly addresses the deficit but doesn't cost jobs.

□ 1910

CONGRATULATING EDEN PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL BOYS NORDIC SKI TEAM

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Eden Prairie Boys Nordic Ski Team for becoming State champions this year. For the first time in nearly 30 years, the Eagles' boys team claimed the State Nordic ski championship title after an excellent performance in the Nordic competition at Giants Ridge earlier this month. The team had an outstanding season and proved their ability and determination in the finals.

Seniors Tom Bye and Ryan Stewart both finished in the top 10, and Henry Zurn and Jay Grootwassink also attained all-State honors. Also deserving of praise, Mr. Speaker, are the coaches, including Coach Doug Boonstra, also known as "Boonie," whose leadership and unwavering support helped motivate these student athletes.

Congratulations to the students, their parents, the coaching staff, and to everybody who helped contribute to the success of the Eagles team.

SEQUESTER EFFECTS ON NEW HAMPSHIRE

(Ms. KUSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KUSTER. If Congress fails to act, the sequester is going to trigger mindless, across-the-board cuts that will hurt middle class New Hampshire families and undermine our economy. There's no question we do need to reduce the deficit, but we have to do it in a balanced way that distinguishes between wasteful spending we cannot afford to keep and critical investments we cannot afford to cut.

We cannot afford to cut investments in research at colleges like Dartmouth

and UNH. We cannot afford to cut investments in programs that prepare our students for the 21st century economy, like those at Nashua Community College. We cannot afford to cut investments in critical defense systems produced by companies like BAE, that protect our troops and create good jobs.

The only way to protect these priorities while avoiding the sequester is for both parties to pass a balanced, bipartisan plan that will responsibly reduce the deficit, grow our economy, and protect middle class families. Now is the time for Congress to step up and do its job.

CONGRATULATING THE STEPHENVILLE YELLOW JACKETS

(Mr. WILLIAMS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WILLIAMS. I rise to salute the mighty Stephenville Yellow Jackets for winning their fifth State championship in football.

Texas football has been written about in TV shows, movies, and books, but Hollywood's version isn't nearly as exciting as the real thing. During the 2012 high school football season, Stephenville lost only one game as it prepared to enter the playoffs. In the championship game, quarterback Tyler Jones threw for five touchdowns and 422 yards and rushed for another 126.

What makes this team so remarkable is not only that it won, but that it was worthy of winning. These are good kids who do credit to their school and their town. Stephenville, Texas, is the cowboy capital of the world. The 17,000 Texans who live there are patriotic, passionate people who take care of business and take care of their neighbors; and, like their high school team, they are winners at everything they do.

I am proud to represent Stephenville, Texas, in the United States Congress, and I am proud to salute the Yellow Jackets on their fifth State title. I look forward to congratulating them next year on another championship.

INVESTING IN OUR INFRASTRUCTURE

(Mr. PETERS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PETERS of California. Mr. Speaker, many will be hurt by the sequester, but San Diego will be hurt in particular. Today, I'm here to urge Congress to work together to find a bipartisan solution to sequestration.

The Port of San Diego is our window to national and international commerce, as well as a main driver of our economy. The Port of San Diego is the fourth largest port in California, and one of 17 commercial strategic ports in America, overseeing two maritime cargo terminals, two cruise ship terminals, and hundreds of maritime leases to small businesses.

Since 2001, the port has received almost \$22 million in Federal funding for critical infrastructure projects, which has allowed the port to hire more San Diegans and boost San Diego's economy. The American Society of Engineers found that with an additional investment of \$15.8 billion between now and 2020, our national system of ports could provide \$270 billion in U.S. exports and \$697 billion in GDP.

Now is not the time to be cutting critical investments in our infrastructure. Let's work together to find a solution.

HONORING MR. JAMES E. WALKER

(Mr. PALAZZO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of a great American, Mr. James E. Walker.

Mr. Walker was born on April 12, 1924, in Gulfport, Mississippi. He grew up in a close-knit family of seven children. After graduating from Woolmarket High School, he joined the United States Marine Corps and served in World War II from 1942 to 1945. Upon returning home, he earned a degree in engineering and became the engineering supervisor at the VA in Biloxi, retiring after 35 years.

Mr. Walker was also the loving husband of Helen Peterson Walker. They wed on February 21, 1946, exactly 67 years to the date of his recent passing.

Mr. Walker was known for his love of trout fishing, his hometown of Gulfport, Mississippi, and most importantly, his family. I stand before you today and declare without a shadow of a doubt that he was the epitome of what we consider a member of the Greatest Generation.

Mr. Walker, you will be missed, not only by your family, but also by the country you so faithfully served in the Marine Corps. *Semper fidelis*.

SEQUESTER AND THE CHILDREN

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Because they have no voting rights, a group that we don't hear a lot about is children. On Friday, March 1, our children will be in the eye of the storm. The sequester that will occur will impact children, particularly Head Start.

So many of my Head Start organizations have cried out for relief and Title I funding, so I want to say to them that we are going to come together. It may not be on Friday, but we know that we're going to look forward to overturn what has been a process that was put in place because President Obama and the Democrats were ready to make sure the government was going to run and others were not.

Now we have a crisis, but that crisis will not last long because we Demo-

crats will put children first and find a solution to ensure that the American people have the resources that are necessary to provide services to ensure the quality of life that their tax dollars pay for. We must have revenue and, yes, we must have spending responsibility, but we cannot undermine the American people.

SEQUESTRATION

(Mr. SWALWELL of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong disappointment in the House Republican leadership in committing such legislative malpractice by failing to do anything about automatic spending cuts that will happen this Friday.

Here we are on the brink of another economic disaster manufactured by Washington, and, just as before, this crisis will have real consequences to real people. In my district alone, schools will lose \$11 million in Federal funding. California will be losing \$87.6 million in funding for primary and secondary schools. Fewer students will be learning and more teachers will be out of work.

There's a rational way to approach balancing the people's budget, and this is not it. We can cut foolish spending without foolishly cutting spending.

H.R. 699, of which I'm a cosponsor, would replace this meat-cleaver method of budgeting with a balanced approach. It would include additional revenue from multimillionaires and smart cuts for unnecessary spending.

We might not agree on what the right way to cut spending is, but we also should agree that using broad, indiscriminate cuts is the wrong way to cut spending. Let's come together to pass legislation to avert these cuts.

□ 1920

RECOGNIZING DR. IRVING FRADKIN

(Mr. KENNEDY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Irving Fradkin of Fall River, Massachusetts, a finalist for the national "Citizen Service Before Self" award.

The son of Russian immigrants, Dr. Fradkin's story of service began in the late 1950s. As an optometrist opening his new practice in a struggling former mill city, he was immediately struck by how few of his young patients had plans to go to college. When he asked why, the response was always a simple answer: My parents can't afford it.

At the time, the average cost of tuition was a couple hundred dollars a year. Dr. Fradkin did the math. He figured that if each of Fall River's 30,000

households gave a single dollar, they could send every single graduating senior in the city to college. And so Dollars for Scholars was born.

With the deep faith and compassion of a tight-knit community, Dr. Fradkin began collecting as little as \$1 from his neighbors and friends to provide scholarships to the local students. Over four decades later, what began as a card table operation in a determined Massachusetts town became Scholarship America, an organization that has awarded nearly \$3 billion in scholarships across 38 States.

At 92 years old, Dr. Fradkin continues to fight for that city that he loves and the students that have made his life's work. Tonight, I congratulate him and his wife, Charlotte, on a recognition deeply deserved.

SEQUESTRATION

(Mr. NADLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, when the Republicans refer to President Obama's sequestration, they must think that no one in the country remembers the events of the last 2 years. Remember that 2 years ago, the Republicans blackmailed the entire country by saying that they would not permit the debt ceiling to be increased and they would force the country to default on its debts—and in fact destroy the economy—unless we cut the budget by \$2.4 trillion. We cut it by \$1.2 trillion. But no one could figure out, no one could agree how to cut another \$1.2 trillion, so both parties put in the sequester to kick the can down the road on this entirely artificial demand for an extra \$1.2 trillion in cuts. That's why we're here now facing an economic catastrophe—because of the blackmail of an even worse catastrophe of failing to pay our bills, of calling into question the full faith and credit of the United States. That's what got us to this point. The only way to get us out is either to just repeal the entire sequester entirely—because we've made enough budget cuts—or to say, all right, we'll do half the budget, half the \$1.2 trillion in cuts, and half by adopting loophole-closing measures that the Republicans themselves supported last year.

SEQUESTER REBUTTAL

(Mr. FARENTHOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I was sitting in the back of the House, listening to some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, and I just had to rise to answer some of the things that they just said.

The gentlewoman from Texas was talking about sequester and the effect that it would have on children. I'd like to remind the gentlewoman from Texas

that the effect that the millions—or billions and trillions—of dollars of debt we are leaving on the backs of our children is going to have an equally negative effect.

This sequester—we are accused of not doing anything on this side. We have passed two bills out of this House doing away with the sequester, but they have not been acted on by the President or the Senate. We have done our job.

The President has asked for a balanced approach. He got his increase in revenue; it's now time to come up with some cuts. Sequester isn't the way to do it, but we cannot give up on getting rid of wasteful spending here in Washington.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN SAM JOHNSON ON 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF RELEASE FROM PRISONER OF WAR CAMP

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOLDING). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about a remarkable individual that serves with us in the House of Representatives.

We are really surrounded by remarkable people, 435 individuals who came from other walks of life. Most of them had other careers before they came to the House of Representatives. But tonight, we're going to talk about the anniversary of one individual. Because, you see, 40 years ago, Colonel SAM JOHNSON was released as a prisoner of war in Vietnam. He had spent 7 years as a prisoner of war in Vietnam.

It all started when he was flying one of his F-4s, being a pilot. This was not a new experience. I mean, after all, he had served in Korea and flew 62 combat missions in an F-86 Sabre called Shirley's Texas Tornado, after his wife, Shirley. So he flew 62 in the Korean war; Vietnam, he's on his 25th mission flying an F-4 Phantom. He left Laotian airspace, came into North Vietnam, and he was shot down by ground fire. This was not his first tour of duty in Vietnam; it was his second tour of duty. SAM JOHNSON is an American warrior.

After he was shot down on this day, April 16, 1966, his life took a turn, a different turn. When he parachuted out of his plane, his shoulder was injured—of course the Vietnamese, they didn't do anything to help his injuries, and he still carries some of those wounds from

his prisoner days and from when he crashed or when he came back down to Earth in that parachute. He was captured by the North Vietnamese Army and he was put in a prisoner of war camp.

The North Vietnamese probably developed prisoner of war camps better than anyplace on Earth. They were hard, they were tough, they were mean, and not everybody survived those camps. So he spent 7 years as a prisoner of war, and they interrogated him every day. But SAM never gave in. In fact, the Vietnamese called him "Die Hard." He was the first person that I know of that was called "Die Hard" because he would never die no matter how hard they beat him.

He was so obstinate, Mr. Speaker, that they sent him to the infamous "Hanoi Hilton"—satire, of course; it was everything but a hotel—and put him in a section called Alcatraz, where he and 11 obstinate prisoners of war were put together. SAM JOHNSON was so tough, would never break, would never give information, that they finally put him in solitary confinement.

Mr. Speaker, I want to describe the cell to you that he spent 4 years of his life in—solitary confinement. It was 3 feet by 9 feet. It's about the size of this table, 3 feet, over to about that podium, 9 feet. That was his cell. That's where he was for 4 years. They left the light on constantly. At night, they would come in and put him in leg irons—4 years solitary confinement. But he never gave up.

He learned how to communicate with other prisoners by tapping on the wall. He learned the names of the other 374 members, memorized their names so that when he got out—because he expected to get out—that he could tell their families that they were there.

But he never broke. He was never broken. He continued to do what he was supposed to do to honor America and represent America, but he never gave information to America's enemies.

So tonight, we commemorate his 40th anniversary of being released from that prisoner of war camp when the war was over. Seven years of his life he gave to this country in a camp that most of us would never survive.

At this time, I'd like to yield to the majority leader, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR).

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. Speaker, we are here tonight to honor and celebrate our friend, SAM JOHNSON, the gentleman from Texas that we all know as a friend and colleague, but that I think America knows as a hero.

SAM, as the gentleman from Texas points out, was awarded two Silver Stars and two Purple Hearts, among his many other decorations, for fighting bravely for freedom, and for 7 years SAM JOHNSON was held as a prisoner of war by the North Vietnamese—the horror of which none of us will ever know

but lies deep within the soul of this great American patriot.

□ 1930

Indeed, Mr. Speaker, the 40th anniversary of his freedom is reason for celebration and is the reason we are gathered here in the Chamber tonight. SAM's heroism and bravery are acts for which all Americans owe him a debt of gratitude.

But I'd also like to talk about our friend, SAM. Mr. Speaker, it's no exaggeration when I say I believe that SAM JOHNSON is the moral compass of our conference. He considers every issue fairly, and he's never afraid to reach across the aisle and work with Members there or on our side of the aisle or with freshman Members, as he did with me when I first came to Congress in 2001.

As many of us know, SAM and Shirley JOHNSON recently lost their son, Bob. All of us would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the Johnsons for their loss. Over these past weeks, we all saw anew the grace and humility that SAM carries with him every day.

Mr. Speaker, that's SAM. America and his beloved Texas are better places because of his decades-long service. And my life, Mr. Speaker, has been immeasurably enriched by our friendship.

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the majority leader for his important words.

I now yield to the gentleman from Texas, Mr. PETE SESSIONS.

Mr. SESSIONS. I appreciate the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for leading the discussion tonight in honor of the great Member of Congress from the Third Congressional District, SAM JOHNSON. I want to take a few minutes tonight to not just acknowledge how great SAM JOHNSON is to the Texas delegation but really to highlight what he means to this body.

SAM JOHNSON has been a Member of this body since 1991. He came in a special election as a result of a hard-fought race in Dallas, Texas, when Congressman Steve Bartlett stepped down. And SAM JOHNSON came to the United States Congress not just with a background of 29 years of serving in the United States Air Force as being a top gun pilot and a man who had served this country in war and at the Hanoi Hilton, but he came here with thoughts and ideas about his home of Texas, representing Collin County and Dallas County, Texas.

It's not just a high honor for us to have SAM as our Member of Congress at that time and currently, but SAM came to this body with ideas that he felt like would make our country stronger and better. More than just respect for the flag and respect for the men and women that serve in our military, but really for respect for human life and individuals, he believes that individuals make our country stronger and better; and he has devoted his life, the times we fly back and forth, SAM talks about how important people are and people's dreams, people back home. He remem-

bers not just the stories about individuals, but I think he idolizes hard work and people who commit themselves to the sacrifice for others.

SAM is known in this body for several years now as the most admired Member of Congress. And he's not the most admired Member of Congress because of just being a nice man—and that he is—but really for standing up and talking about the values of this country, the values of this country, what we stand for and how he wants it to be even better.

He and Shirley have, for years, stood up across Texas and across this country and talked about how important we are if we sacrifice to make others' lives better, if we leave our country better than the way we found it. And so tonight on behalf of the people of the 32nd Congressional District, which is Dallas, which is right next to Congressman SAM JOHNSON, I stand up and applaud the life of SAM JOHNSON, his service to our country, not just the United States Air Force and the American people, but also the man that calls home Plano, Texas, and the Third Congressional District, our great friend and colleague, Congressman SAM JOHNSON.

So, SAM, congratulations. Congratulations for not just a job well done but for the 40 years that you have been back home and what you have done to your life as a result of the service for what you believe was the right thing to do.

I thank the gentleman from Texas, Judge POE, for the time.

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentleman. The gentleman, Mr. SESSIONS, points out a little-known fact that after Colonel SAM JOHNSON got out of that prisoner-of-war camp, he stayed in the Air Force and served a total of 29 years. He also served in the famed Thunderbirds. He has quite a remarkable Air Force career.

I now yield to the gentleman from Texas, Mr. RALPH HALL, the senior member of the Texas delegation and the House of Representatives.

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague. I do rise, as others, today for a great American and a very dear friend, SAM JOHNSON. It's been said over and over again about Operation Homecoming, but that's one of the great days that I remember. And I'm sure it's in SAM's mind and heart and that he appreciates all of us here getting to say a few words about him.

He served, as you know, for 29 years in the United States Air Force flying combat missions in both Korea and Vietnam, captured by enemy forces, going to spend 7 years in captivity as a prisoner of war, including 42 months of solitary confinement. Despite that confinement, SAM never lost his faith in God. He continued to show leadership and courage, helping to teach other prisoners how to survive. Through those 7 years, SAM remained committed to staying strong and helping other fellow soldiers doing the same thing.

Finally, on February 12, 1973, he returned to U.S. soil with other fellow American servicemen in what was known as Operation Homecoming. Once home, he was united with his wife, Shirley, who faithfully waited and prayed for SAM's safe return.

It's a fact about SAM's fighting for our country. He also suffered for our country. This isn't the prime reason his constituents vote for him, though it would be enough; but SAM is completely aware of the rules of the House of Representatives and one of the Speaker's leading whips. When SAM speaks, we listen.

SAM and Shirley suffered the loss of a son the last week of February. I hope they felt the love and grief we shared with them and the family. We know that grief is addressed in the Bible. Love spawns grief, and without love there's little grief. There is much love in the Johnson family for their neighbors and friends. For the approximately 7 years SAM and the others suffered in the Hanoi Hilton, a 4-letter word was always on their mind: home.

In closing, let me just say that SAM continues to fight on behalf of our veterans and members of the armed services. After 40 years, he continues to serve the American people with the same strength and resolve that he demonstrated in Vietnam. I'm truly honored to have the opportunity to serve with such an exemplary American and to call him a friend. SAM's commitment to his country, faith, and family are values that every American should live by. I ask all my colleagues, of course, to vote "aye."

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a great American and a dear friend of mine, SAM JOHNSON, in honor of the 40th Anniversary of "Operation Homecoming." On February 12, 1973, 591 American prisoners of war, including SAM JOHNSON, returned from Vietnam after being held as prisoners for seven years. SAM is the epitome of a true American hero. His unwavering dedication to freedom and to serving his country exemplifies what it means to be a patriot.

SAM served for 29 years in the United States Air Force, flying combat missions in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. In 1966, during one of his missions, SAM's plane was shot down over North Vietnam. He was captured by enemy forces and would go on to spend seven years in captivity as a Prisoner of War, including 42 months of solitary confinement.

"After his capture, SAM was sent with 10 other POWs to a special facility where they were kept in solitary confinement from 1967–1969. Self-named the "Alcatraz Gang," they were sent there for their strong resistance against their captors. They were shackled in legcuffs every night and endured continued torture. SAM never lost hope, and remained unbreakable against his torturers. SAM, along with the other members of the "Alcatraz Gang," was moved back to the infamous Hanoi Hilton where he served out the remainder of his time in Vietnam.

Despite his confinement, SAM never lost his faith in God. He continued to show leadership and courage, helping to teach other prisoners

how to survive. Throughout those seven years, SAM remained committed to staying strong and helping other fellow soldiers to do the same.

Finally on February 12, 1973, SAM returned to U.S. soil with other fellow American servicemen in what was known as "Operation Homecoming." Once home, he was reunited with his wife Shirley, who faithfully waited and prayed for SAM's safe return.

SAM and I shared Collin County for many years in the U.S. Congress and we would often speak to constituents together. I always dreaded to compare my war service as a fighter pilot with the Navy with SAM's service. His record, every phase, was so much more admirable and dangerous than my several years, that I felt like I had run off to Canada.

As a fact, about SAM's fighting for our country, he also suffered for our country. This isn't the prime reason his constituents vote for him, though it would be enough. SAM is completely aware of the rules of the House of Representatives and is one of the Speaker's leading Whips. When SAM speaks, we listen.

SAM and Shirley suffered the loss of a son the last week of February, and I hope they felt the love and grief we shared with them and the family. We know that grief is addressed in the Bible. Love spawns grief, and without love, there is little grief. There is much love in the Johnson family, and their neighbors and friends.

For the approximately seven years SAM and the others suffered in the Hanoi Hilton, a four-letter word was always on their mind: HOME.

My dad was in WWI, and he went overseas with the same soldiers, and returned back to the USA with many of those he fought with. To show how much they loved home and the sight of the Statue of Liberty, as they entered the New York Harbor, one of my dad's friends said to the Statue of Liberty, "Old lady, if you ever see me again, you are going to have to turn around." That's what going home meant to most Veterans of the various wars.

SAM continues to fight on behalf of our veterans and members of the Armed Services. After 40 years, he continues to serve the American people with the same strength and resolve that he demonstrated in Vietnam. I am truly honored to have the opportunity to serve with such an exemplary American, and to call him "friend." SAM's commitment to his country, faith, and family, are values that every American should live by. I ask all my colleagues present today to join me in honoring such an outstanding American hero, SAM JOHNSON.

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentleman for his wise words.

I now yield to the gentlewoman from Fort Worth, Texas, Ms. KAY GRANGER.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, we're here tonight to honor our friend and colleague, SAM JOHNSON, a man of service, a man of faith, and a man of tremendous courage.

SAM was released from captivity 40 years ago as part of Operation Homecoming. It was a plan to bring home POWs. As part of the Paris Peace Accords of 1973, 591 POWs were brought home as part of that operation, and our dear friend, SAM, was one of those.

Sometimes there are people that do great things but very few people know about it, people in their family or a few close friends. SAM JOHNSON's life has

not been that way because it's been recognized because his achievements are so outstanding and he's been such a leader. So I think those recognitions deserve to be repeated tonight: two Silver Stars, two Legions of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, a Bronze Star with Valor, two Purple Hearts, four Air Medals, three Outstanding Unit Awards; and the Congressional Medal of Honor Society gave JOHNSON their highest civilian accolade, the National Patriot Award.

SAM, it's such an honor for all of us to serve in this House with you, be a friend of yours and learn from you. Thank you for all your service.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas, Mr. MICHAEL CONAWAY.

□ 1940

Mr. CONAWAY. I thank the gentleman from Texas for setting up this evening to honor our friend and colleague, SAM JOHNSON.

SAM's career and exploits have been talked about several times now, and I won't repeat those, but there are a couple of things I would like to highlight. One, not only was he an Air Force pilot, but he was also a member of the elite Thunderbirds, which is the Air Force's best of the best. That is a demonstration team that goes across this country and around the world representing the Air Force, representing our country.

Another thing about SAM is that he had the good fortune of marrying Shirley. If you read SAM's book, "Captive Warriors," one of the most poignant parts of that book is Shirley's unwavering, steadfast belief that SAM was still alive. There was a long time while SAM was in captivity that we didn't have proof of life. Shirley was being told by some very influential folks that SAM had perished, and she just flat out simply refused to believe that, throughout all of the evidence. And so for a number of years there she held that vigil, and it was rewarded, of course, by SAM's coming home some 40 years ago this week.

I don't have a lot of heroes on this Earth. SAM JOHNSON is one of them. If I ever get around to writing memoirs and somebody asked me what am I the most proud of of service in this House, one of those things will be being able to say that I'm among the select and privileged group to have served with SAM JOHNSON. He is a warrior of the best order, and it is with the most heartfelt emotions that I can muster that I thank him for his service. If I count the years correctly, it's 29 in the Air Force, 10 years in the Texas Legislature, and some 22 years here. That's 61 years. I don't know how old SAM is, but that has got to be about half his life anyway.

So it is with great pleasure that I thank SAM for his long service to our country. Thank you, SAM.

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentleman from Texas.

I now yield to the gentleman from Round Rock, Texas, Judge JOHN CARTER.

Mr. CARTER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

SAM JOHNSON is an American hero, and everybody in this House knows that. He's an American hero for all kinds of ways that he served this country. Many of the people here are going to talk about those ways, and every one of them are important.

I read SAM's book. It's an awesome book. It makes you cry at points; it makes you struggle. But it also expresses the kind of a man and, quite frankly, the kind of a family SAM JOHNSON has.

SAM was a guy with a broken leg, dislocated shoulders, who looked them straight in the eye and spit in their face and told them to take their best shot. And he suffered for it, he suffered unmercifully for it, but he never gave in to the enemy. He always stood his ground, to his detriment, and it harmed him in so many physical ways. And yet the thing that makes me always tear up is you read the part of the book where SAM steps off that plane, when we finally repatriated our prisoners, and saluted and said, Colonel SAM JOHNSON reporting for duty, sir. And SAM reports for duty.

People say, Who do you want to have your back in a foxhole? But people also say, Who do you want to have your back in Congress? I want SAM JOHNSON to have my back in Congress. He's a friend. He's one of my best friends in this Congress. I've gotten to know him very well. He and I go to a Christian retreat together almost every year.

And that's one of the things you notice from the book. SAM didn't talk about himself. He talked about when they took him out and he thought, This time they're going to shoot me. He prayed to God that he could stand there and be a man. And they went, Ready, aim, fire, click, and one more time they didn't shoot him. And at that time he thanked God and his Savior, because he knew he had witnessed a miracle.

Meanwhile, his sweet wife was praying and fighting on the home front because she didn't know. She got very little news about what was going on in SAM's life, but she never gave up because her faith strengthened her. And that's part of the theme of that book that you need to pick up and read, that their faith strengthened them in trials that none of us can ever imagine.

SAM JOHNSON is a hero, not just because of what went on in Vietnam and what our enemy did to him. He's a hero because he comes here every day and he fights for the people of his district and for the State and for this country. He's willing to take a risk and step out, even now after all the years of service, both legislatively and in the Congress. SAM JOHNSON is one who is willing to step out and take the shots.

I was once asked by "60 Minutes" to define what a leader is, and I said,

Well, I'm just a history guy who reads history. I always thought in the First World War how hard it would have been to come out of those trenches and charge those machine guns with a bolt-action rifle, and that the officers who climbed out in front and said, "Let's go, boys; let's go get 'em," were the heroes, and the guys that stayed in the bottom and said, "You go get 'em, boys," they were not heroes. And a special hero is one who says, "I'm going first and I'll take the shots."

There's plenty of shots to be had in this Chamber, and those are political shots. But I'm proud to say that that same hero that spit in the enemy's face, SAM JOHNSON, is still willing to stand up and take the shots in Congress. And for that reason, I today honor my good friend SAM JOHNSON and tell him I want him to keep taking care of my back, because I need it real bad.

God bless you, SAM. You're my friend.

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, Judge CARTER points out something that happened to SAM JOHNSON during that 7 years that a lot of people don't realize.

When he was in that little cell, 3-foot by 9-foot, he was so obstinate, the North Vietnamese Army would take him out of the cell; they would beat him up. He would never break. They would get so mad at that, that he wouldn't break, that they would line him up against the wall and they would tell him they're going to shoot him. They would blindfold him. They would get their AK-47s ready and, as Judge CARTER mentioned, they would pull the trigger—click, click, click—then they would laugh at him.

SAM JOHNSON would say, "Is that the best you got? Is that the best you got?" He didn't take anything from the Vietnamese, even though they tried to do everything they could to break him down.

That's what makes him so remarkable. You may notice, Mr. Speaker, he's sitting back here on our scriptural row. All the Texans sit on the same row. He sits in the middle. One reason we sit back there is because that's the row he picks. So we all sit next to him. And you'll see every day when the House is in session, the Texans, we're all together sitting around SAM JOHNSON. We kind of stick together for a lot of reasons.

I now yield to the gentleman from Texas, Dr. MICHAEL BURGESS.

Mr. BURGESS. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, we are here tonight to honor Congressman SAM JOHNSON. It's also appropriate to take a moment and send our thoughts and prayers to Congressman JOHNSON's family during a difficult time that they're going through right now.

As we've heard tonight, Congressman JOHNSON is a decorated war hero. During his 29-year service in the United

States Air Force, Congressman JOHNSON flew in 62 combat missions in the Korean War and 25 missions in the Vietnam War. He endured almost 7 years as a prisoner of war in Hanoi, with a majority spent in solitary confinement, after being captured in North Vietnam.

Congressman JOHNSON persevered through this dreadful experience, returned to the United States and was reunited with his wife and three children on February 12, 1973. This week marks the 40th anniversary of his release, and we celebrate his achievements and the sacrifice for his country. In fact, 10 years ago this week, I gave what was my first speech on the House floor honoring then SAM JOHNSON's 30th anniversary of freedom, and at that time his wife, Shirley, was with us in the gallery.

□ 1950

When SAM came home, he undertook a duty to continuously support and protect every man and woman who risks his life fighting for the United States of America. This was a motivation for his decision to run for office, and it is a true statement to the character and virtues that he gained from his service to this country.

In thinking about Shirley, every summer, she does a fashion show in Frisco, Texas. SAM is my neighbor to the east from the congressional district that I represent. Shirley does a fashion show, the proceeds of which go to provide scholarships for kids in the area—true dedication to community service. We are all so honored to have SAM and Shirley in our lives.

Thank you, Congressman JOHNSON. Thank you for being my friend and my mentor, for providing me expertise when I ran for the House and when I arrived at the House. You continue to provide mentorship to me today.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I now recognize the gentleman from Tyler, Texas, Judge GOHMERT.

Mr. GOHMERT. I thank my friend, a former judge as well.

It is an honor to be here and to be part of this Special Order to honor our friend SAM JOHNSON.

SAM and Shirley are public servants in every sense of the word. There were the 29 years in the Air Force. The United States service was what he was. It's what he did. There were the 7 years in Hanoi Hilton—one of the worst prisons ever concocted in the imagination of sick minds—and he spent 42 months of that in solitary confinement. There are people running around the world saying that you can't put people in solitary confinement, but they were not around to help SAM JOHNSON during that horrible time in Hanoi. This is the 40th anniversary of his release, and America has been better for SAM JOHNSON's living and serving and for Shirley's being his partner even though, for 7 years, they were apart.

I know, on the first day I was sworn in, I was sitting right over here on the

aisle, talking to another Republican, and SAM came down the aisle. His body still shows the torture and the broken bones that never healed properly and the bones that grew around nerves that they were never able to fix.

When he got even with me, I stood up and shook his hand and said, SAM, it is such an honor to serve with you in this body. SAM has always been a man of honesty and integrity, a man whose judgment I could trust.

He said, Well, it's an honor serving with you—which was a stretch—but then he said, But don't trust that fella next to you. I found out after that that SAM JOHNSON's advice was always good and always advice that could be well taken.

After some of the revelations in the Middle East of a U.S. prison camp, I said, SAM, did you hear about the torture of making people strip down and put panties on their heads?

And he said, Yeah.

I said, Was that ever a choice that you were given?

He said, If it had been, I'd be naked, wearing panties still today.

That was nothing compared to the hell that that man was put through in Hanoi.

Then I found out that in our U.S. prisons—it's open information—that we provide not only a Koran, which has never been touched by American hands, but also an arrow on the floor that points in the direction that the Islamic prisoner would want to pray, and we give him a prayer rug.

I asked SAM, When you were in Hanoi, did you have a prayer rug and a Bible, as that was part of your faith?

And he said, No. Actually, what we had was a tiny, little rod that was placed on the floor—our feet in shackles. We would be beaten on the back until we dropped, and my knees would hit that tiny rod.

It doesn't sound like much, but when you spend hours or days with your knees and all your weight on a tiny, little rod on the floor, it gets pretty unbearable. And that was some of the less torturous stuff this man went through on our behalf.

Part of his service to this country are his children and his grandchildren, and it is with great sadness that I know SAM and Shirley and this country lost Bob Johnson—Plano High School to Texas A&M. His children and grandchildren.

SAM, our hearts are with you. You have sacrificed more than anybody I know on behalf of this country, and it is an honor to serve with you.

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentleman from Tyler, Texas.

I now recognize a gentleman from Texas, Mr. LAMAR SMITH.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. First of all, I want to thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for organizing this Special Order tonight.

Mr. Speaker, today's Special Order is to honor our friend, colleague and a true American patriot, Congressman

SAM JOHNSON, and his 40th anniversary of freedom.

Congressman JOHNSON has a long history of serving our country. He spent 29 years in the United States Air Force and flew 87 combat missions during the Korean and Vietnam wars. He was awarded two Silver Stars, the Distinguished Flying Cross, a Bronze Star with Valor, and has received many other recognitions. Today, we celebrate Operation Homecoming and observe the 40th anniversary of his release from a Vietnamese prisoner-of-war camp.

Congressman SAM JOHNSON was captured and held for 7 years in a POW camp in Vietnam. He spent 42 months in solitary confinement—an unfortunate record. Though tested both physically and mentally, almost beyond comprehension, his unwavering love of God and country remained steadfast. A firsthand account of Congressman JOHNSON's experience in the Vietnamese POW camp can be found in his riveting and inspiring book, "Captive Warriors," which will cause you to weep.

His commitment to his country was matched only by his wife Shirley's commitment to him. Friends say she set a seat at the table every night while he was gone with the hope and expectation that he would come home.

After his release, Congressman JOHNSON started a homebuilding business from the ground up. Then he was elected to the Texas House of Representatives for 7 years, and he has now represented Texas' Third Congressional District since 1991.

It is a professional honor and a personal privilege to serve with Congressman SAM JOHNSON. Today, we thank him for his service to our country and to the American people.

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize another aviator, although he wasn't in the Air Force—he was in the Navy, which still counts. He served our country as a naval aviator before coming to the House of Representatives, Mr. PETE OLSON of Sugar Land, Texas.

Mr. OLSON. I want to thank my friend and fellow Texan, Judge TED POE, for hosting this Special Order: celebrating the greatest Texan in Congress, Colonel SAM JOHNSON, on the 40th anniversary of his return home after 7 years as a prisoner of war in Vietnam.

We've heard the stories of SAM's lifetime of service to our Nation. They are the stuff of legends—the best of the best. SAM was shot down on his 25th mission over Vietnam, captured and imprisoned by the enemy. He was put in a special prison known as Alcatraz. His 2 years in Alcatraz were described by SAM as "hell on Earth."

Twenty years after SAM left Alcatraz, I began my training to become a naval aviator. Part of that training included prisoner-of-war school, also known as SERE school—survival, evasion, resistance, and escape. In SERE school, we

were locked in a dark box. We were deprived of sleep and exposed to interrogation techniques depicted in the movie "Zero Dark Thirty." The main lesson I learned in SERE school was because of SAM JOHNSON: that my duty as a POW was to resist and to resist and to resist and to resist and to resist—to my breaking point as a human being.

□ 2000

When I hit that point, my duty was to bend a little, give some incomplete and vague information, regroup, and start anew—to resist, to resist, to resist, to resist, and to resist.

Because of SAM JOHNSON's experience, every U.S. military pilot who follows in his footsteps, like me, knows in his heart if we're captured, we will never stop resisting our captors, and we will always come home with honor, like SAM did.

The heart of SAM JOHNSON, the SAM JOHNSON I know, can be summed up in the first sentence SAM reportedly said to his fellow POWs after he left solitary confinement: Lieutenant Colonel SAM JOHNSON, reporting for duty, sir.

I imagine that our POW in charge responded to SAM with a slow, crisp salute saying, Colonel JOHNSON, take charge, and carry out the plan of the day.

SAM has been taking charge and carrying out the plan of the day his whole life. I wasn't there to greet SAM when he came home 40 years ago, so I say it to my friend now: Welcome home, SAM. Welcome home.

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentleman from Sugar Land, Texas, for his insightful words. You pointed out, Mr. OLSON, that he spent 4 years in a prisoner-of-war camp. During those 4 years, he didn't talk to another American for 4 years. He could tap on the wall to contact them in codes that they'd developed over the numerous years they'd all been in confinement. They tapped out the names of the other prisoners, the 374 other prisoners that had been in the Hanoi Hilton at one time. They all memorized the 11, the Alcatraz Gang, as they called themselves. They memorized those names because they all expected that they were going to escape and get back and be able to tell those families who had come into the camp. A remarkable story.

I now yield to the gentleman from Texas, Mr. ROGER WILLIAMS.

Mr. WILLIAMS. I'm honored to stand here today and say a few words about one of my personal heroes and friends, and one of America's greatest patriots, SAM JOHNSON. This month is cause for celebration as it marks 40 years since nearly 600 American POWs, including Congressman JOHNSON, stepped foot on American soil after enduring years of captivity during the Vietnam war.

Many of us couldn't endure for one day what SAM JOHNSON endured for 7 years, much less endure it with unbreakable strength, unending faith in God, and constant hope that this incredible man has.

His captors knew him as a die hard, one of the few POWs who refused to give in and cooperate with their anti-American propaganda. His fellow American prisoners knew him as a leader, one whose spirit could not be broken, whether he was in leg stocks or solitary confinement, for 4 years. And his family knew him as their hero, a man who loved serving his country and was willing to sacrifice his life in defense of freedom.

I'm honored to know him as a friend. Throughout his 29-year career in the Air Force, he earned many distinguished decorations, awards, and merits. But for those who have had the pleasure of sitting at the dinner table with SAM, you know those years were also filled with laughter and antics. After all, he did fly with the legendary Thunderbirds before the FAA existed.

Men like SAM JOHNSON are what have made our military great—and our country—the greatest force on Earth. He has built a remarkable legacy with his lifelong service to America, to the great State of Texas and, most importantly, to his family and loved ones.

Colonel JOHNSON, thank you for your service to our country and for your example to us all. And I'd like to remind people, America doesn't give because it's rich; America is rich because it gives. And it's given us SAM JOHNSON, and for that we're very grateful.

Luke 6:38 says:

A good measure be given to you, pressed down, shaken together, put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.

SAM, you gave it all to us, and you deserve every great thing that happens to you. So may God bless you, and may God bless our troops.

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentleman.

I now yield to the gentleman from Lubbock, Texas, Mr. RANDY NEUGEBAUER.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. I thank the gentleman. It is indeed an honor and a privilege for me to participate in this recognition of our colleague but, more importantly, my friend, SAM JOHNSON.

You know, when I got to Congress, you get to know people, and particularly because SAM was in the Texas delegation, and people started saying, they'd say you know SAM's story, and they would begin to tell me a few things about SAM JOHNSON. So some of the things that you're hearing tonight are things you would have never heard from SAM JOHNSON because SAM doesn't talk about what he does. He just goes about doing the right thing.

In fact, he's got a history of serving this country. When you think about SAM JOHNSON, you think about service. You know, a lot of people serve. SAM has served in our military. He served in our Texas House, and now in the United States Congress, but not everybody serves with equal sacrifice. And when you think about SAM JOHNSON's life, you think about sacrifice.

How I learned more about SAM was an interesting trip that I took with

then-Speaker of the House, Denny Hastert. We flew to Vietnam to be one of the first delegations to have a Speaker of the House be in Vietnam since the end of the Vietnam war. And so I decided on that trip that I would read SAM's book. So all of the way over there, I read SAM's book, and it was just by fate that I read the last page as we landed in Hanoi.

Tears streamed down from my eyes as I had been on this journey that SAM takes you through his book of sacrifice and pain, but also a man that had faith. And it was his faith that he relied on on a daily basis, and his commitment to his country and his commitment to those who were with him, and the fortitude that he showed of taking those sometimes daily beatings, and this quietness of solitude. As we landed there, I was thinking about SAM and his spending 7 years in those conditions and then coming back home.

But as you read that book, what you also know is another hero, and SAM would be quick to point out, and that was his wife, Shirley, who never gave up hope, never gave up on SAM because she knew the SAM JOHNSON that we've been talking about tonight. She knew that SAM wouldn't go down easy.

SAM, we're so proud of you and so glad to serve with you. One of the memorable points of that trip is just a few months before that, SAM himself had traveled back to Hanoi, the first time since he had left, and he had signed the guest book just a few pages over:

Sam Johnson back again, where I spent 7 years of my life.

It was an honor for me to sign just a few pages over. For a great American hero but, more importantly, for a great friend: God bless you, SAM JOHNSON, and God bless the United States of America.

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentleman.

I would ask the Speaker how much time I have remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. RADEL). The gentleman has 17 minutes remaining.

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the Speaker.

I yield to the gentleman from Texas, Mr. BLAKE FARENTHOLD.

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Thank you, Congressman POE.

I'm honored today to stand up here to honor the bravery and commitment that Congressman SAM JOHNSON has shown his country. SAM lived through an experience that would bring even the toughest soldier to his knees. He was in the Air Force for 29 years and was a prisoner of war for 7 after his F4 plane was gunned down in North Vietnam.

Now today, 40 years after he was released from captivity, we celebrate his freedom. He was beaten and tortured and kept in a small cell; yet he refused to give up or disclose any information to the enemy. The sacrifice and peril that SAM went through is on the heart

of every young man or woman who commits himself to serve the Armed Forces. SAM and his family just suffered a tragic personal loss. I have no notes here; you can read about SAM and his accomplishments and his heroics on the Internet. Or better yet, buy the book.

I want to talk for a minute about my experience in the slightly over 2 years that I have been in the House serving with SAM.

There is nobody that has the respect of this Congress the way SAM JOHNSON does.

□ 2010

I don't know a single person on either side of the aisle that doesn't appreciate SAM's service and sacrifice and hold him in the highest esteem. And that's saying something, when we're serving in a body that's constantly bickering, that has an 8 percent approval rating. But if all of us who serve were half the man that SAM JOHNSON is, we would have a 100 percent approval rating here in Congress.

I'm honored to serve with SAM. I thank him for his service, though that seems just too little for what he has done and given up for this country. But I'm proud to call him a friend.

God bless you, SAM. God bless Texas, and God bless the U.S.A.

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentleman for his comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas, Mr. STEVE STOCKMAN.

Mr. STOCKMAN. Mr. Speaker, when I got here 18 years ago, when I first got here I was wet under the ears, and I started looking at different people's voting patterns. And I didn't know, you know, which way to go or whatever. All I know is SAM in private is the way he is publicly. And privately, SAM, you're a hardcore American patriot. And I started to learn a lot from you.

But reading your history and what you did, I just can't imagine being in that confinement for that period of time. It seems like it would be beyond what anybody could take. Yet, time and time again, you stood up, and there was only 11 of you that resisted the torture and resisted the torture of the Vietnamese, which broke every Geneva Convention protocol.

And SAM, in this area in which you've served our Nation, I understand—I think it was five rows across and five rows down. So A A would be tap, tap, B would be tap, tap, tap—in other words, they would do the alphabet five five that way, and they would tap out at night. And that's all the communication they had.

And serving with SAM, and watching SAM go through his service and his commitment to the American people, I don't know if we actually read all of his medals, but he has two Silver Stars, two Legions of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, a Bronze Star with Combat Valor, two Purple Hearts, four Air Medals, three Air Force Outstanding Units, and he was also awarded the Prisoner of War Medal.

That's just one individual having all those medals, and he's served our Nation and our country and continues to serve our Nation and our country.

I'm honored to serve with SAM. And at this time, when he's lost his son, you're in our prayers. God bless you.

And thank you for offering the opportunity to say a little bit on behalf of SAM.

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentleman.

I now yield to Mr. BILL FLORES from Texas.

Mr. FLORES. I thank the gentleman from Texas for organizing this very special evening.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest admiration and respect for Congressman SAM JOHNSON. Tonight, America has heard many accolades for and compliments dedicated to SAM JOHNSON, and I'm not going to repeat those in my comments.

Rather, I want to say that our country needs more SAM JOHNSONS during these difficult times. We need more persons like SAM to bravely move and serve in our country's military today. We need more persons like SAM to serve as statesmen.

We need more people like SAM who put principle ahead of politics or personal gain. We need more persons like SAM to be knightly gentlemen in an unstable society. We need more persons like SAM who are devoted husbands and loving fathers.

Mr. Speaker, America needs more heroes like SAM JOHNSON. I pray that America continues to produce men and women of strength and perseverance and character like SAM JOHNSON.

God bless SAM and his wife, Shirley, and his family, in particular. We remember their son, Bob Johnson, this evening.

I'm honored and humbled, and I have to say deeply humbled, to serve with my good friend from Texas, Congressman SAM JOHNSON.

Mr. POE of Texas. I thank the gentleman for his comments.

Mr. Speaker, SAM JOHNSON is a remarkable individual. The nickname that the Vietnamese gave him of Diehard, he's still that way. He's hardcore. He is opinionated, and he can back up everything he says. But that's a good thing. He does represent the best that we have in this country.

His military background: We have, in the House of Representatives, Members of Congress, both sides, that have served in our military, all branches, in the Reserves, the National Guard, they served in World War II, they served in Korea and Vietnam, like SAM JOHNSON. They've served in both Iraqi wars, the Afghanistan war, and they're still serving today.

We have Members who have lost their limbs for this country while on active duty serving this country. And SAM JOHNSON is among that elite that have represented America, the flag, and our country when our country needed our military.

He's married, three kids—you now know that one of them died recently—and he has 10 grandkids.

He served in the war, the second war, not the Korean War, but the second one, the Vietnamese War, came back home. Americans didn't treat our war veterans from Vietnam very well. They were treated real bad, in fact. Some of our American troops, when they came back home from serving in Vietnam, they wouldn't wear the uniform because Americans would ridicule them for what the country asked them to do.

America has learned since Vietnam. We treat our warriors a lot better now. We treat them like they ought to be treated when they come back home from Iraq, Afghanistan, and other parts of the world.

Our warriors from Vietnam didn't get the appropriate welcome back, as already mentioned. Tonight, we welcome back one of them. We welcome back Colonel SAM JOHNSON, United States Air Force, reporting for duty.

After spending 7 years in a prisoner-of-war-camp, 4 years in solitary confinement, as I pointed out, 9 feet by 3 feet for 4 years, 24 hours a day, leg irons at night, taken out in the daytime and beat. Never broke. Diehard. Never gave in. He was never broken.

Remarkable individuals, these Americans who serve and wear the uniform. It's a rare breed, but it's the American breed, and that's what makes us free, those people, those remarkable people who wear the uniform and serve, and serve overseas, and serve in prisoner-of-war camps, if necessary.

So we thank SAM JOHNSON. We thank all who have served and are serving today for their service to our great country. But especially tonight, we welcome home SAM JOHNSON of the United States Air Force. And that's just the way it is.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 40th anniversary of "Operation Homecoming," which made possible the release of hundreds of American heroes held captive in North Vietnam.

One of those courageous POWs is my friend and our distinguished colleague, Congressman SAM JOHNSON of Texas, who didn't see his family for seven years as a prisoner of the North Vietnamese. Forced to endure severe torture, solitary confinement, malnutrition, and attempts by their captors to force confessions for propaganda, SAM JOHNSON and countless other American POWs conducted themselves with uncommon courage and heroic strength of character.

In SAM's book, "Captive Warriors," he writes about a phrase found scribbled onto the walls of his cell: "Freedom has a taste to those who fight and almost die that the protected will never know." Because of men like SAM, I know that my nine-year-old son and my ten-year-old daughter sleep in a freer and a safer America tonight.

President Calvin Collidge once said, "The nation which forgets its defenders will itself be forgotten." I, for one, am committed to ensuring this nation never forgets the sacrifice Congressman SAM JOHNSON and the countless

American POWs who have endured such extreme hardship—and in many cases paid with their lives—to protect the freedom we cherish.

Mr. Speaker, as a Texan and as an American, I am proud to salute patriot SAM JOHNSON.

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Congressman SAM JOHNSON's 40th anniversary of freedom. On February 12, 1973, Congressman JOHNSON and 590 other American POWs were released from captivity in Vietnam. With 29 years in the United States Air Force, nearly seven of those spent imprisoned, and 22 years of service in Congress, Congressman JOHNSON has been selflessly dedicated to the betterment of our nation for more than 50 years. As we celebrate his 40 years of freedom today, we must also recognize that his half century of dedicated service has helped to preserve the freedom and prosperity of all Americans. It is a great privilege to represent Texas alongside such an inspiring patriot. I am proud to call SAM JOHNSON a true friend and a personal hero.

CBC HOUR: VOTING RIGHTS ACT, SECTION 5

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Nevada?

There was no objection.

Mr. HORSFORD. The Congressional Black Caucus is proud to anchor this hour, and I'm pleased to be here with our chair, the Honorable MARCIA FUDGE, from the 11th Congressional District of Ohio, and to yield her such time as she may consume.

Ms. FUDGE. Thank you so very much. And thank you, as well as Mr. JEFFRIES, for anchoring these CBC hours. It is wonderful to have new Members come to the House floor and do the work that we've been doing for so long. I am so proud of them and appreciate of the work they do, so thank you very much.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to send a clear message to those who would seek to undermine our constitutional right to vote: You will not win. The race is not to the swift nor the battle to the strong. This is not the first time section 5 of the Voting Rights Act has been challenged, and there is a very good chance that it will not be the last.

□ 2020

The Congressional Black Caucus and many others, even a number of Members from the other side of the aisle, have continually reauthorized and worked to protect section 5. In a matter of days, the Supreme Court will review the constitutionality of section 5. If the Supreme Court does not ulti-

mately decide to protect the uninhibited right to vote for all voters, no matter their race, the Court will not and must not have the last word on this matter.

The 15th Amendment provides that the right of citizens to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State on account of race, color, or previous servitude. Despite the passage of the 15th Amendment and ratification by the States, Congress has been forced to act in order to protect African American voters from violence and intimidation.

Prior to the Voting Rights Act, the courts' attempts to protect voters proved inadequate. In 1965, at the height of the civil rights movement, when vicious dogs and poll taxes were used to block the ballot, Congress passed the Voting Rights Act. This law was necessary then, and the last two Federal elections have shown, without a shadow of a doubt, that section 5 remains essential today.

The right to vote is among the most important rights we enjoy as Americans. Because of its importance, because of the power behind the vote, it is the one right most often compromised; and for the same reasons, it is a right that we must do everything in our power to protect.

Martin Luther King, Jr., once said:

So long as I do not firmly and irrevocably possess the right to vote, I do not possess myself.

As the Supreme Court prepares to hear arguments in *Shelby County, Alabama v. Holder*, we must remember the words of Dr. King and the importance of section 5.

Since 1982, approximately 2,400 discriminatory voting changes have been successfully blocked by the section 5 preclearance process. After the 2010 midterm elections, 8 of 11 States that were a part of the former confederacy passed new voting restrictions. These laws require government-issued photo ID to cast a ballot, proof of citizenship to register to vote, many cut back on early voting, and several disenfranchise ex-offenders. These laws are specifically designed to make it more difficult for minorities and other traditionally marginalized eligible voters to participate in the political process.

The recent assault on voters was not restricted to the States with a history of voting discrimination. In my home State of Ohio, and in many other States and jurisdictions not covered by section 5, there were attempts to pass restrictive laws. Leading up to the 2012 election, 22 laws and 2 executive actions restricting voting rights were passed in 17 States, and 176 restrictive bills were filed in 41 States.

The Federal Government should be doubling down on the Voting Rights Act by expanding and strengthening Federal protections. The long lines in Florida and the voting scams in Arizona were no coincidence. Section 5 is as necessary today as it was on the date of its inception in 1965 and should include more States and jurisdictions.

Mr. HORSFORD. Thank you, Chairwoman FUDGE. We look forward to your leadership on this issue and other issues under your steady hand of the Congressional Black Caucus in the 113th Congress.

I now yield to the distinguished Member from North Carolina, Representative BUTTERFIELD.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and particularly thank the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus for her leadership in convening this special hour tonight.

As many of our colleagues know, before being elected to Congress 8 years ago, I was a trial judge and an appellate judge in my home State of North Carolina. But what many of you may not know is that, for some 6 years before becoming a judge, I spent considerable time litigating cases under the Voting Rights Act and presenting comments to the Department of Justice in section 5 cases.

Mr. Speaker, so many people do not understand section 5. This preclearance provision does not apply in every jurisdiction in America. It only applies to selected counties where there was evidence of discriminatory voting practices when the Voting Rights Act was first enacted in 1965. These jurisdictions are required to submit to the Department of Justice any changes in election law or procedure for determination of whether the change could have a negative impact on the voting strength of minority groups. If the jurisdiction fails in their proof, the change is not allowed. And I will say for the RECORD today that, in the early days of section 5, many jurisdictions ignored the requirement.

It has been proven, Mr. Speaker, time and time again in courtrooms across America that racially polarized voting has existed at the ballot box since the 15th Amendment was ratified—and it exists today. My congressional district in North Carolina, though it is improving, continues to have voting based on the race of the candidate. Many white voters choose not to vote for a candidate who is clearly the preferred candidate of the African American community. When this happens, the black community is handicapped. We call it vote dilution. And so section 5's preclearance provision simply is a backstop against jurisdictions devising election schemes that will make it more difficult for the African American community to elect a candidate of its choice, taking into consideration the existence of racially polarized voting.

Mr. Speaker, I can cite dozens of instances in North Carolina where discriminatory changes were proposed to election systems and the Department of Justice stepped forward and denied the change. Had it not been for section 5, black electoral success in my congressional district would be considerably less. Many of the cities and counties in my district now have single-member election districts that were or-

dered by the courts. The courts have required that some of these districts had to be majority African American, which now enable the African American community to elect candidates of their choice. Elimination of section 5 could enable mischievous jurisdictions to eliminate this in favor of at-large elections, where concentrations of black voters would be submerged into at-large systems.

Mr. Speaker, the time has not come when we should eliminate the protection of section 5. The evidence continues to suggest racially polarized voting that discriminates against the African American community. If this protection is struck down, some governing boards at the State and the local level will seize the opportunity to promulgate election rules that disadvantage minority voters, and the only remedy then will be to file an expensive Federal lawsuit and prove intentional discrimination in the district court. And so, Mr. Speaker, I urge the Supreme Court to carefully look at the legislative history that we have provided and decide to maintain the protection of section 5.

Again, I thank the gentleman from Nevada for his friendship and his leadership and for working to make this hour happen tonight.

Mr. HORSFORD. Thank you, Mr. BUTTERFIELD. We, again, appreciate your leadership as the vice chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus and look forward to working under your leadership, as well as Chairwoman FUDGE.

At this time I now yield to my colleague and friend, the distinguished Member from New Jersey, Representative PAYNE.

Mr. PAYNE. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my good friends and colleagues, Congressman HORSFORD of Nevada and Congressman JEFFRIES of New York, for anchoring tonight's CBC Special Order on the Voting Rights Act.

Fair and equal access to the ballot box is an important topic and one of these that has not been fully resolved. One hundred-fifty years ago, President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, but it took another 100 years to pass the Civil Rights Act, and eventually the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Since then, our country has made progress in achieving justice and equality, but it is no secret this process has been painfully slow and noticeably deficient.

The Supreme Court will hear the case this week of *Shelby v. Holder*, which, if ruled in the favor of Shelby County, Alabama, would take us back 50 years and undo protections granted in the Voting Rights Act.

□ 2030

Some argue that we no longer need some of these protections provided in the Voting Rights Act. Some argue that we have achieved equality and justice for all. Some argue that section 5

is outdated because racism has been eviscerated. It is true we've come a long way and times have changed, but the unfortunate fact is that we have not changed enough.

Let's look at the facts. This past November, people across this Nation had to wait in line to vote for hours in places such as Miami, Tampa, Richmond, Charlotte, and Raleigh. Sometimes people waited 6, 7, or 8 hours to exercise their fundamental right to vote.

In the President's State of the Union Address, President Obama had a guest, a woman by the name of Desiline Victor, who waited 6 hours in Florida to vote. She was 102 years old. This is simply unacceptable. And unfortunately, long voting lines have become all too commonplace, particularly in urban and minority-rich areas.

So the big question I get asked from my constituents is: Why wouldn't we want everyone who is eligible to have the opportunity to vote? The answer is simple: When more Americans vote, they tend to vote for Democrats.

Regardless of someone's political persuasions, every eligible American should have the fair opportunity to cast their ballot—whether they be white, black, Asian, Latino, man, woman, gay, straight, Protestant, Catholic, atheist, or agnostic—because of the simple fact that we are all Americans and voting is a fundamental right in this country. This is about preserving democracy, and eliminating section 5 would undermine that right upon which this country was founded.

This past year, 37 State legislatures shamelessly passed laws that oftentimes targeted minorities and attempted to limit their access to the ballot. Strict photo ID laws, limitations on early voting, and stringent voter registration laws all had one purpose: It wasn't about reducing fraud; it was about preventing certain populations from voting.

It is astonishing—and it could not be more evident—that racism and the effort to suppress the right to vote is alive and well in this Nation. Luckily, section 5 rightly ensured that many of these laws never passed preclearance. So it cannot be plainer that now is the time to strengthen, not weaken, section 5, as it still serves as a very real and critical purpose in preserving our democracy and the right to vote for millions.

Mr. HORSFORD. Thank you, Representative PAYNE, Jr. We appreciate your remarks.

I now yield to the distinguished Member from Maryland, Representative CUMMINGS, who is the ranking member on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, the committee that has jurisdiction on voting reform issues.

Mr. CUMMINGS. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I also take this moment to thank the Congressional Black Caucus for making this happen. And I thank Representatives HORSFORD and JEFFRIES

for leading this. It is quite encouraging—and I know that our chairman, MARCIA FUDGE, agrees with me—when we see our new Members come to the forefront and lead. That's why our constituents sent us here. I just want you to know that we are very, very, very proud of you, as we are of our other new Member, Mr. PAYNE, who just spoke. We are certainly glad that you are here and leading.

We all know our Nation's disgraceful history in this area of voting rights. I've often said that if we did not have the Voting Rights Act, these past few years have taught us that we would have to invent it.

For decades and decades, racist and exclusionary voting practices kept minorities from accessing the ballot box. I'm reminded of my great-great-grandfather, Mr. Scipio Rhame. In the South Carolina of 1868, he overcame tremendous hardships and life-threatening dangers just to register to vote, only a few years after he had come out of slavery. Sadly, this country has witnessed very slow progress toward equality in voting. The reality is that in the year 2013, we are still fighting for the right to vote for all Americans.

In election after election, discriminatory voting laws and exclusionary practices still surface. This past election cycle, we saw a new wave of efforts to suppress the vote. We saw racially motivated efforts to cut back on early voting. We saw physical destruction of voter registration forms. Across the country, we saw eligible voters prevented from casting their ballots because of long lines, inaccurate voter records, and poorly trained poll workers.

As the ranking member on the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I launched an investigation last year into the actions of True the Vote, a Tea Party organization that claims to promote "voter integrity" efforts. In fact, True the Vote sought to make it harder for Americans to vote. They challenged the registration of thousands of legitimate voters across the country before Election Day, and they deployed volunteers across the country to challenge access to the polls for legitimate voters.

Efforts by groups like True the Vote disproportionately affect minority communities, and they are just one small example of the practices that still seek to suppress the vote in our country.

The Voting Rights Act is often cited as the most effective civil rights law in our history. Section 5 has been one of the most powerful tools in the act because it combats discriminatory attempts to marginalize voters before they can take root. When President Lyndon Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act in 1965, he said this:

There were those who said smaller and more gradual measures should be tried. But they had been tried. For years and years they had been tried, and tried, and tried, and they had failed, and failed, and failed. And the time for failure is gone.

So, in closing, I hope the Supreme Court Justices remember these words as they consider this most recent challenge to section 5 of the Voting Rights Act.

Today, in the year 2013, section 5 remains as critical as ever to protecting the right to vote in the United States of America.

Mr. HORSFORD. Thank you, Representative CUMMINGS. I know under your leadership, as the ranking member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, the issue of voting rights will continue to be a top priority in this Congress.

Mr. CUMMINGS. You're absolutely right. Thank you.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. President, I now—excuse me, Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the distinguished Member from Maryland, our whip, Mr. HOYER.

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, STEVE and I were both in the senate, and you have a president in the senate. That's why he was referring to you as Mr. President. I understand that, STEVE.

I am pleased to join MARCIA FUDGE, the chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, and my good friend, STEVE HORSFORD, the gentleman from Nevada. And I notice that DON PAYNE is here. His father was a very close friend of mine, active some 45 years ago. So it's good to see you here, DON, and HAKEEM JEFFRIES, two of our really great new Members. I'm pleased to join you.

□ 2040

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Congressional Black Caucus for organizing this Special Order hour. America's greatest strength—and its greatest gift to the world—is our democratic system of government based on an equal voice for every citizen. It is what grants legitimacy to our laws and earns us respect from those in other parts of the world who yearn for the freedoms we enjoy.

For most of our history, our democracy was deeply flawed: excluding women, African Americans, Native Americans and many others. But part of what makes America great is that we are constantly working to perfect our democracy by correcting such flaws. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was a central part of that effort—and an incredibly successful one. Before that legislation was enacted, millions of African Americans were systematically prevented from registering to vote or casting their ballots across much of the South. And I would venture to say that there were other parts of America where they were dissuaded from voting, as well. Poll taxes, "grandfather clauses," literacy tests and other nefarious devices were employed to keep Americans from exercising their most fundamental civil right.

Perhaps the greatest impetus for enacting the Voting Rights Act was the horrific violence and hatred of "Bloody Sunday," when peaceful civil rights marchers were beaten and turned back at the Edmund Pettus Bridge outside Selma, Alabama.

Mr. Speaker, this weekend, a number of us here will be traveling to Selma, led by the same man who helped organize those 1965 marches, our friend and colleague, Representative JOHN LEWIS, an extraordinary historic figure, an extraordinary gentle man, but a giant of courage and principle. We are going as part of an annual pilgrimage to remember that day, "Bloody Sunday," March 7, 1965, and the cause for which those brave Americans, black and white, risked their lives: political equality and the perfection of our democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I've been privileged to walk with JOHN LEWIS across that bridge and others, including at least two Presidents, for 10 out of the 13 times that JOHN LEWIS has reenacted that walk. Walking in their footsteps is one way to honor that cause. But it is far from the best way. The best way to do it is to carry on their work—to defend and promote the protections included in the Voting Rights Act that they fought so hard to bring about.

On Wednesday, Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court will hear arguments in *Shelby County v. Holder*, which challenges the constitutionality of one of the Voting Rights Act's central provisions, and that is pre-clearance, making sure that the Justice Department says, yes, this is fair; yes, this will not exclude; yes, this is a policy that will be consistent with our democracy. Pre-clearance, established by section 5 of the act, mandates that jurisdictions with a long history of voter suppression and civil rights violations must submit to the Justice Department for approval any plans to change their election practices or district boundaries before doing so. Section 5 has been instrumental in ending discrimination and protecting eligible voters at the polls. Its constitutionality is rooted in article I and has been working as intended for nearly half a century.

At a time when we are hearing about problems voters faced all over the country in last November's election—with long lines, registration errors, voting machines that malfunctioned and deceptive practices—we ought to be working together to make the Voting Rights Act stronger, not weaker.

I will continue, along with my colleagues, to stand up for the Voting Rights Act on this floor and in every forum of debate. Because those who marched at Selma or braved the dangers of the freedom rides did not do so in vain. Their legacy is our responsibility. The more perfect democracy they helped forge is ours to safeguard, not only for our sake, but for the sake of those who will inherit our democracy in generations to come.

So, Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to join my colleagues in the Congressional

Black Caucus in strong support of section 5 of the Voting Rights Act—and the rest of it as well—as it faces meritless challenges this week that I am confident will be surmounted.

And, again, in closing my part of this Special Order, I want to congratulate STEVE HORSFORD, Congressman HORSFORD, from Nevada. He's new to this body, but he's not new to legislative representation. He understands the legislative process very, very well; and it is appropriate that in one of his first Special Orders on this floor that it's on behalf of every American—not just black Americans, not just Hispanic Americans and not just disabled Americans—every American. Because if one American's right to vote is compromised, there will be a risk to all Americans that their vote will be compromised. And I thank my friend, Congressman HORSFORD.

Mr. HORSFORD. Thank you, Representative HOYER. As our whip, you have provided a strong and articulate voice on these and other issues, and we look forward to continuing to work with you as we move our country forward and protect the most fundamental of all rights—the right to vote.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I now yield to my co-anchor, my colleague as a freshman member in this 113th Congress. I am pleased to be working with him as one of the co-anchors for the Congressional Black Caucus and bringing these important issues to all of our constituents throughout this great country, the distinguished Member from New York, Representative HAKEEM JEFFRIES.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Let me first just thank the distinguished gentleman from the Silver State, my good friend and colleague, Representative STEVEN HORSFORD, for anchoring this CBC Special Order. I also, of course, want to thank Chairwoman MARCIA FUDGE for the tremendous leadership that she has continued to provide and, of course, to our whip, STENY HOYER, for his eloquence and his leadership on this and many other issues on behalf of this great country of ours.

It is my honor and my privilege to co-anchor this CBC Special Order, this “hour of power,” so to speak, where members of the Congressional Black Caucus have an opportunity to speak directly to the American people today on an issue of great importance as it relates to the integrity of our democracy. There's no more fundamental issue to preserving the integrity of the great democracy that we have here in America than the right to vote. The right to vote is something that should be cherished, something that should be protected, something that should be respected. But the right to vote has not always been treated in this fashion in this Republic of ours. During the founding of this country, we know, of course, that African Americans were largely excluded from being able to participate in our democracy as a result of the conditions of their enslavement.

In 1869, this Congress came together and sent to the States for ratification the 15th Amendment to the United States Constitution, an amendment that was designed to remedy the situation related to the failure to meaningfully include African Americans in our democracy. It was designed to provide constitutional protection to limit the ability of States to disenfranchise individuals on the basis of race, color, or prior conditions of servitude.

Yet we understand that for about 100 years subsequent to the passage and ratification of the 15th Amendment to the United States Constitution, it was largely evaded in many parts of America as a result of legislative schemes that were devised to prohibit or limit the ability of African Americans and other communities of color to participate in our democracy. These legislative schemes took many forms. Some have already called their names—poll taxes, “grandfather clauses” and literacy tests—legislative schemes devised to limit the ability of African Americans and others to participate in this glorious democracy of ours. A large part of it took place in the Deep South, but there were instances of this all over America.

□ 2050

Mr. Speaker, that is why the Congress came back in the midst of the turbulent era of the 1960s and passed the 1965 Voting Rights Act, which included a section 5 preclearance provision that was designed to require those covered jurisdictions, or jurisdictions of all or parts of 16 States, to get approval from either the Department of Justice or a three-judge Federal Court panel here in Washington, D.C., whenever any of these jurisdictions sought to change a law with respect to voting.

The rationale for this section 5 preclearance requirement was because, in these covered jurisdictions, there was a history of discrimination as it related to the franchise, deliberate schemes designed to limit the ability of American citizens to participate in our democracy; and as a result of this history, the section 5 preclearance requirement was put into place. And it has worked. Over close to five decades that it has been in effect, it is perhaps the most successful piece of civil rights legislation that this Congress has passed.

Now, as a result of its success, there are some who have contended that it is no longer a relevant provision of law, and that when the Congress came together in bipartisan fashion in 2006 to reauthorize this provision, that this body, the House of Representatives and the Senate, which passed the reauthorization 98 to 0, Democrats and Republicans, the contention is that this body exceeded its constitutional authority because section 5 allegedly, according to the defenders of disenfranchisement, is no longer relevant.

Now, in the aftermath of Barack Obama's historic election in 2008, there

was a Supreme Court case involving Austin, Texas, I believe, in 2009 that was heard just a few months after his inauguration. And part of the argument that was made in that Supreme Court case by those who sought to invalidate section 5's preclearance requirement was that, as a result of this historic election of Barack Obama, race seems no longer to be an issue in America, and they pointed to the elevation of Barack Obama to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

Now, of course, that was an extremely important moment in the history of our Republic. It was a substantial step forward. But the reality is that the election of Barack Obama has also served to illustrate that in America there's still some issues of race that we've got to confront.

It's interesting, because if you look at the election of Presidents since the passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act, it's unprecedented in the aftermath of President Obama's election to have seen the level of voter suppression laws and efforts that we were forced to confront in this country. These efforts presumably are based on the thin claim that those who are advancing these laws are trying to guard against fraud. No evidence of fraud, but those who are advancing these voter suppression laws are attempting to guard against fraud.

When you look at the record, what's fascinating is that when Richard Nixon was elected in 1968, there was no explosion of concern for alleged fraud. He was reelected in 1972, no explosion of concern for alleged fraud. And then Jimmy Carter is elected in 1976, no explosion of concern for alleged fraud. And then Ronald Reagan is elected in 1980 and reelected in 1984, no explosion of concern for alleged fraud. George H.W. Bush elected in 1988, no explosion of concern for alleged fraud. Bill Clinton elected in 1992, reelected in 1996 and no explosion of concern for alleged fraud. George W. Bush elected, some would argue under questionable circumstances given the dynamics in the great State of Florida, but again, no explosion of concern related for alleged fraud. The same was true in 2004, notwithstanding some concerns in the great State of Ohio, no explosion of concern for alleged fraud. Yet Barack Obama is elected in 2008, and all of a sudden in the aftermath of this historic election there's an outbreak of concern, a pandemic of anxiety as it relates to the fraud that allegedly is taking place in America.

And so, as this chart illustrates—it is a wonderful chart that was prepared by the Brennan Center for Justice in my home State of New York, connected to my alma mater, New York University. It illustrates that since 2001, 41 States introduced 180 restrictive laws. Those States are illustrated by the red on the map. Parenthetically, a curious choice of colors, but those States are illustrated by the red on the map. Forty-one States introduced 180 restrictive laws.

And then you have 34 States introduced photo identification requirements; 17 States introduced proof of citizenship requirements; 16 States introduced bills to limit registration; and nine States introduced bills to limit or reduce early voting periods—unprecedented in the history of our democracy.

I just went through the election of several Presidents who were inaugurated post the 1965 Voting Rights Act, but, for some reason, the American people are smart enough to draw cause and effect when this President was elected. We had an outbreak of concern related to alleged fraud.

Now, thankfully, the Voting Rights Act in section 5 was in place to do something about it. I just talked about the fact that there were 41 States that introduced some form of voter restrictions.

On this map, we see that as of October in 2012 there were 25 laws and two executive actions that were passed in a total of 19 States. A large amount of this activity, as you can see on this map, Mr. Speaker, took place in the Deep South and in Texas, States that are largely covered by the section 5 preclearance requirements.

□ 2100

Let me just pause parenthetically and note that what's also interesting is that there were two States, Iowa and Florida, that in the past had executed through executive order reforms designed to allow those who as a result of the criminal justice system had had their ability to vote taken away from them restored through a process that had been put in place; but in the aftermath of the election of President Obama, what we saw is that in Iowa and in Florida—those two States—through executive order, they repealed those positive steps forward to make it almost impossible for those who had brushes with the law to ever be able to reengage in the ability to participate in American democracy.

These were laws that were passed. Yet, because of the section 5 preclearance requirement, not all of these laws actually were able to take effect. That's an important point as it relates to the continuing relevance of section 5's preclearance requirement. As of October 2012, approximately 12 courts either halted or blunted—they pushed back—some of those laws that States had attempted to enact.

Perhaps the most relevant example of why section 5 continues to be relevant is due to what took place in the Lone Star State, the great State of Texas, when the legislature passed what would have been the most restrictive voter identification law in the country. It would have prohibited potential voters from presenting student college identifications; they were deemed in this law as invalid. It would have prevented voters from presenting State government identification; IDs that were actually issued by the State of Texas would not have been valid under this law.

I find it interesting, particularly in light of the current debate that we're having related to how we deal with gun violence in America, that one of the forms of ID that actually would have been accepted was a license that allowed an individual to carry a concealed handgun permit. This was too much to accept for the Justice Department and for those who in good conscience seek to defend our democracy, and because Texas is a covered jurisdiction, it had to be presented for preclearance by the Department of Justice or a three-judge panel, and it was rejected. So this law, though passed, never took effect. The same thing happened in Alabama. The same thing happened in South Carolina. There is a law that was passed by the State of Florida that is under consideration. So, as a result, even though many objectively believed it was designed to suppress the vote, it did not take effect in advance of the 2012 election because it was under review by the Department of Justice and their preclearance requirement.

Mr. Speaker, in America, certainly we have come a long way, but we still have a long, long way to go. Jim Crow may be dead, but he has still got some nieces and nephews who are alive and well; and until every single descendant of Mr. Jim Crow's is dead and buried, we in the Congressional Black Caucus believe that the section 5 preclearance requirement of the Voting Rights Act remains as relevant today as it was when it was passed in 1965.

Mr. HORSFORD. Thank you, Representative JEFFRIES.

Mr. Speaker, may I ask how much time I have remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 13 minutes remaining.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, as the Congressional Black Caucus has discussed this evening, voting rights are an issue that all Americans are entitled to, and we should be helping more voters to participate in our democracy, not creating laws that prevent or discourage anyone from voting.

As my colleague just explained, the coanchor from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES), we have made tremendous progress in recent history in securing the right to vote for many minority communities. A fully free and democratic society is always a work in progress, and with each election we are reminded that we cannot rest. We must always come to the defense of voting rights, and we cannot be caught off guard or pretend that because time has passed that we do not need to continue to fight to safeguard our rights. Now, no successful social justice movement has secured freedom absent vigilance, and that's why we are here tonight—to defend a pillar of justice and democracy.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was approved by Congress to protect fundamental voting rights and to protect minority groups from disenfranchisement. After a series of violent attacks

on civil rights leaders who were registering African Americans to vote, former President Lyndon B. Johnson sent draft legislation to Congress to protect voting rights, and it was signed into law soon thereafter.

Since then, the Voting Rights Act has been one of the Nation's most effective civil rights laws and tools to combat discrimination and voting. Over time, the tactics used to stop people from voting have become more sophisticated. Unfair voter ID laws, barriers to voter registration, and narrowed early voting opportunities were all used in an attempt to suppress the vote in 2012. Overall, 2,400 changes in voting laws were stopped because of section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, as my colleague Mr. JEFFRIES just outlined.

In January, NAACP President Benjamin Jealous said:

The Nation has been facing some of the "greatest attacks on voting rights since segregation" and that the potential to repeal section 5 is the biggest threat yet.

Whether it's attempts to restrict early voting in Ohio or in Florida or whether it's throwing up billboards in minority communities that read "voter fraud is a felony," we know that our work is not done. Intimidation is still a tactic employed by some seeking to scare voters from the polls. Until that threat is extinct, section 5 of the Voting Rights Act still has a very important role to play in making full democratic enfranchisement a reality in our society. We secured the integrity of our electorate in 2012, and it's in part because of the Voting Rights Act.

This is not a partisan issue. There is bipartisan consensus on that point. In 2006, the Voting Rights Act was reauthorized with overwhelming support from both sides of the aisle. In fact, this body, the House of Representatives, has voted four times—with strong bipartisan support every time—to reauthorize section 5 of the Voting Rights Act.

□ 2110

Every reauthorization has been signed into law by a Republican President. The most recent reauthorization vote was 390–33 in the House and 98–0 in the Senate.

As part of the last reauthorization, Congress released over 15,000 pages of committee reports that demonstrated large-scale evidence of voting discrimination. Not only did these findings lead to a bipartisan vote to reauthorize the legislation, but Congress also cited the invaluable role of section 5 in thwarting racial injustice. According to the committee report, without the continuation of the Voting Rights Act's protections, the evidence is clear that "racial and language minority citizens will be deprived of the opportunity to exercise their right to vote, or will have their votes diluted."

In other words, Mr. Speaker, the Voting Rights Act is important for many different communities.

The writing is on the wall. Our work is not done. Section 5 must be upheld. And because of that, we stand in strong support of the Voting Rights Act here tonight.

I'd like to now bring my colleague, Mr. JEFFRIES, up so we can highlight some of the provisions of the Voting Rights Act, both from a historical perspective but most importantly how it still applies today.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Thank you, Mr. HORSFORD.

I think you hit on a very important point that should be reemphasized in the context of this debate. Every single reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act section 5 was signed into law by a Republican President. And so in 1970, the reauthorization was signed into law by President Richard Nixon. In 1975, it was President Gerald Ford. In 1982, it was Ronald Reagan. And in 2006, it was George Bush.

It was the current House majority, held in different form, but when Republicans were in charge of the Chamber, they allowed the reauthorization to move forward through the Judiciary Committee on a bipartisan basis. Now this may seem strange in the current poisonous environment of Washington that we exist in right now, but there was significant cooperation, tremendous leadership shown by the then-chairperson and the ranking member, JOHN CONYERS. It passed in the House of Representatives 390–33.

It's also interesting to note historically that prior to this year, every time section 5 and the Voting Rights Act has been used to address alleged concerns with redistricting, which traditionally takes place 2 years after the completion of the census, when it was used by the Justice Department to block or modify redistricting reforms or changes prior to the Obama administration, on every other occasion since the passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965 it was a Republican Justice Department charged with the responsibility of addressing concerns with redistricting and the problem of racial gerrymandering. It was the Nixon Justice Department in 1972. It was the Reagan Justice Department in 1982. It was the George H.W. Bush Justice Department in 1992. It was the George W. Bush Justice Department in 2002.

And so the history of section 5 and the Voting Rights Act is a glorious one, not just as it relates to the preservation of our democracy, addressing the need to make sure that every American, regardless of race or color, has the capacity to participate in a meaningful way, but it's been traditionally viewed and executed through a bipartisan lens. We're hopeful that when the Supreme Court takes up oral argument on this matter in 2 days, that they will evaluate it on the merits and give due deference to Congress, which has consistently reauthorized it pursuant to its power under article I of

the Constitution as well as the 15th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America.

There really is no case to be made that it should be declared invalid. I believe we've illustrated time after time how it's been used to protect the integrity of our democracy, and we're hopeful that at some point down the road, it will no longer be necessary. But, Mr. Speaker, that moment has not arrived in America as of today.

Mr. HORSFORD. Thank you, Representative JEFFRIES. As you just indicated, Wednesday's hearing before the Supreme Court is to hear arguments as they pertain to whether to preserve section 5 of the Voting Rights Act. That is why the Congressional Black Caucus has come to the floor this evening, to bring attention to this very important provision of current law and to ensure that, as the legislative branch, we have the ability to preserve and to strengthen the Voting Rights Act as necessary.

We want to continue to push forward. There are those who have come before who have fought, bled, and died for our right to vote. We want to continue to fight and preserve everyone's right to vote.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, in the run-up to the 2012 elections Republican-controlled legislatures passed a wide range of bills designed to restrict, rather than broaden, access to the ballot box. Despite multiple comprehensive reports and findings demonstrating that impersonating another voter is more rare than being struck by lightning, thirty one states now require ID, fifteen require photo ID, for voting, potentially disenfranchising five million voters mostly minorities, especially African Americans, and senior citizens. Other recent oppressive state laws aim at making it more difficult to register to vote and scale back early voting periods. Several states undertook massive (and subsequently proven fraudulent) purges of the voting rolls. Some of the most egregious attempts at suppressing the vote occurred in states which required pre-clearance under the 1965 Voting Rights Act because of their long history of voter suppression. Without Section 5 in place, many of the roughly 2,400 blocked voting changes proposed since 1982 would have had a significant adverse impact on voters.

Following the Civil War Congress recognized the critical central role of voting in our democracy and passed the fifteenth amendment which gives the Federal Government primary authority to prevent discrimination in voting. The amendment was ratified by the states and the Voting Rights Act (VRA) is a direct implementation of that authority to prevent any attempt to limit access to the ballot. The Supreme Court has itself noted that Congress, not the Court, has the special responsibility to protect voting rights. The fact is that, in an overwhelming bipartisan vote in 2006, Congress found that voting discrimination continues to persist, and it undermines our democracy and therefore reauthorized the VRA for twenty-five years.

This year marks the 48th Anniversary of the 1965 Selma-to-Montgomery March which led to the passage of the Voting Rights Act and I join in calling for a new generation of Freedom Riders to join with tens of thousands of original Freedom Riders in standing tall for our hard won voting rights.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as the Supreme Court prepares to hear arguments in *Shelby County v. Holder* this week, it is critical that we recognize the importance of upholding the Voting Rights Act (VRA) in order to preserve the rights of all Americans. To strip the VRA of its most effective provision now would be to turn our backs on millions of Americans who continue to be targeted by discriminatory voting practices.

The 2012 Presidential Election exemplified the persistent threats that work to disenfranchise voters. Long lines at polling places, the purging of voter registration rolls, and blatant efforts to intimidate select groups of voters have mired the electoral process in many localities. In Texas, two harsh voter mandates were passed in 2012 which were designed to create hurdles to voting with restrictive voter ID laws, and to dilute the voting power of the burgeoning minority population. In a testament to the necessity of the VRA, both measures were blocked under Section 5, preventing inequality of voting rights in Texas.

Historically, Congress has always reauthorized Section 5 of the VRA on a bipartisan basis, and as recently as 2006. The U.S. Department of Justice has filed more than 1,000 objections under Section 5 since 1982, protecting millions of voters from discrimination. The Supreme Court has upheld Section 5 of the VRA four times.

Mr. Speaker, voter disenfranchisement still poses a great threat to the electoral process. The Voting Rights Act is an essential tool in our fight to preserve equal voting rights for all Americans. Through the VRA, Congress has exercised its constitutional authority under the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to ensure voters have free and fair access to the polls. Until there is sufficient evidence to suggest that efforts to suppress minority voters have been mitigated, the Voting Rights Act must be upheld in its entirety.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. CULBERSON (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of illness.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 18 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, February 26, 2013, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the third and fourth quarters of 2012 pursuant to Public Law 95-384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☐

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. FRANK D. LUCAS, Chairman, Jan. 25, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Adrienne Ramsay	10/7	10/9	Russia		802.00						802.00
Commercial Airfare	10/9	10/11	Switzerland		900.00						900.00
Donna Shahbaz	10/8	10/11	Italy		806.00		10,439.70				10,439.70
10/12	10/13	Luxembourg									806.00
10/13	10/14	France									
10/14	10/17	Germany			360.58						360.58
Local Transportation Costs							1,722.00				1,722.00
Misc. Staff Delegation Costs								1,859.44			1,859.44
Commercial Airfare							2,561.20				2,561.20
Sarah Young	10/8	10/11	Italy		806.00						806.00
10/12	10/13	Luxembourg									
10/13	10/14	France									
10/14	10/17	Germany			360.58						360.58
Local Transportation Costs							1,843.00				1,843.00
Misc. Staff Delegation Costs								1,859.44			1,859.44
Commercial Airfare							2,845.40				2,845.40
Robert Blair	10/14	10/20	Russia		2,278.00						2,278.00
Local Transportation Costs							3,899.00				3,899.00
Interpreter's Service								4,466.58			4,466.58
Commercial Airfare							9,460.25				9,460.25
Loraine Heckenberg	10/14	10/23	Russia		3,379.35						3,379.35
Local Transportation Costs							4,011.00				4,011.00
Interpreter's Service								4,466.58			4,466.58
Commercial Airfare							7,615.05				7,615.05
Taunja Berquam	10/14	10/20	Russia		2,278.00						2,278.00
Local Transportation Costs							3,829.00				3,829.00
Interpreter's Service								4,466.58			4,466.58
Commercial Airfare							9,465.65				9,465.65
Brooke Boyer	10/9	10/10	Italy		328.50						328.50
10/10	10/13	Kenya			914.78						914.78
10/13	10/16	Uganda			928.68						928.68
10/16	10/17	Djibouti			340.00						340.00
Misc. Transportation Costs							128.00				128.00
Commercial Airfare							9,846.50				9,846.50
Tim Prince	10/9	10/10	Italy		328.50						328.50
10/10	10/13	Kenya			914.78						914.78
10/13	10/16	Uganda			928.68						928.68
10/16	10/17	Djibouti			340.00						340.00
Misc. Transportation Costs							32.00				32.00
Commercial Airfare							9,846.50				9,846.50
BG Wright	10/9	10/10	Italy		328.50						328.50
10/10	10/13	Kenya			914.78						914.78
10/13	10/16	Uganda			928.68						928.68
10/16	10/17	Djibouti			340.00						340.00
Misc. Transportation Costs							138.00				138.00
Commercial Airfare							9,846.50				9,846.50
Megan Rosenbusch	10/9	10/10	Italy		328.50						328.50
10/10	10/13	Kenya			914.78						914.78
10/13	10/16	Uganda			928.68						928.68
10/16	10/17	Djibouti			340.00						340.00
Misc. Transportation Costs							155.00				155.00
Commercial Airfare							9,846.50				9,846.50
Dena Baron	10/14	10/17	France		310.00						310.00
10/17	10/19	Germany			293.00						293.00
Misc. Staff Delegation Costs							1,214.60				1,214.60
Misc. Transportation Costs							168.74				168.74
Commercial Airfare							3,153.50				3,153.50
Michael Friedberg	10/14	10/17	France		310.00						310.00
10/17	10/19	Germany			293.00						293.00
Misc. Staff Delegation Costs								1,214.60			1,214.60
Misc. Transportation Costs							168.74				168.74
Commercial Airfare							3,018.50				3,018.50
Doug Disrud	10/16	10/17	France		165.00						165.00
10/17	10/19	Germany			293.00						293.00
Misc. Staff Delegation Costs								550.60			550.60
Misc. Transportation Costs							168.74				168.74
Commercial Airfare							3,102.74				3,102.74
Kate Hallahan	10/14	10/17	France		310.00						310.00
10/17	10/19	Germany			293.00						293.00
Misc. Staff Delegation Costs								1,214.60			1,214.60
Misc. Transportation Costs							168.74				168.74
Commercial Airfare							3,118.50				3,118.50
Joseph William Carlile	10/14	10/17	France		310.00						310.00
10/17	10/19	Germany			293.00						293.00
Misc. Staff Delegation Costs								1,214.60			1,214.60
Misc. Transportation Costs							168.74				168.74
Commercial Airfare							3,118.50				3,118.50
Hon. Rodney Frelinghuysen	12/7	12/9	Bahrain		248.00						248.00
12/9	12/11	Saudi Arabia			126.00						126.00
12/10	12/11	Belgium			154.00						154.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012—
Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Committee total					25,416.35		113,883.69		22,527.62		161,827.66

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

³ Military air transportation.

HON. HAROLD ROGERS, Chairman, Jan. 28, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Visit to India, Afghanistan, October 12–19, 2013:											
Hon. Duncan Hunter	10/17	10/18	Afghanistan		56.00						56.00
Commercial Transportation	10/13	10/17	India				21,063.95				21,063.95
Hon. Adam Smith	10/17	10/18	Afghanistan		293.94						293.94
Commercial Transportation	10/13	10/17	India				18,030.85				18,030.85
Hon. Todd Platts	10/17	10/18	Afghanistan		305.94						305.94
Commercial Transportation	10/13	10/17	India		25.00						25.00
Ryan Crumpler	10/17	10/18	Afghanistan		629.00		15,037.40				15,037.40
Commercial Transportation	10/13	10/17	India		56.00						56.00
Paul Arcangeli	10/14	10/17	Afghanistan		520.00		17,130.50				17,130.50
Commercial Transportation	10/17	10/18	India		56.00						56.00
Michael Casey	10/13	10/17	Afghanistan		629.00		19,585.56				19,585.56
Commercial Transportation	10/17	10/18	India		56.00						56.00
Visit to Japan and Taiwan, November 16–21, 2012:							17,130.50				17,130.50
Hon. Robert J. Wittman	11/18	11/19	Japan		245.00						245.00
Commercial Transportation	11/19	11/21	Taiwan		212.01						212.01
Hon. Madeleine Z. Bordallo	11/21	11/21	Japan				10,200.60				10,200.60
Commercial Transportation	11/18	11/19	Japan		245.00						245.00
Michele Pearce	11/19	11/21	Taiwan		212.01						212.01
Commercial Transportation	11/21	11/21	Japan				10,200.60				10,200.60
Debra Wada	11/18	11/19	Japan		245.00						245.00
Commercial Transportation	11/19	11/21	Taiwan		212.01						212.01
Visit to United Arab Emirates, Afghanistan, Bahrain, November 16–22, 2012 with CODEL Chaffetz:							10,200.60				10,200.60
Hon. Mike Coffman	11/18	11/18	United Arab Emirates		194.70						194.70
Commercial Transportation	11/18	11/19	Afghanistan		28.00						28.00
Commercial Transportation	11/19	11/21	Bahrain		333.91						333.91
Committee total					5,011.53		148,781.16				153,792.69

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON, Chairman, Jan. 31, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Bill Flores	11/18	11/19	Japan		245.00						245.00
Commercial Transportation	11/19	11/21	Taiwan		212.01						212.01
Committee total	11/21	11/21	United States				13,575.10				13,575.10
Committee total					457.01		13,575.10				14,032.11

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. PAUL RYAN, Chairman, Jan. 30, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Brett Guthrie	6/30	7/2	Slovakia		542.29		(³)				542.29
Commercial Transportation	7/2	7/4	Georgia		862.62		(³)				862.62
Commercial Transportation	7/4	7/5	Djibouti		342.04		(³)				342.04
Commercial Transportation	7/5	7/6	Spain		496.89		(³)				496.89
Hon. Gene Green	6/30	7/3	Portugal		807.00		(³)				807.00
Commercial Transportation	7/3	7/4	Spain		345.00		(³)				345.00
Commercial Transportation	7/4	7/9	Croatia		1,488.33		(³)				1,488.33
Hon. Marsha Blackburn	9/4	9/5	Thailand		103.00		(³)				103.00

February 25, 2013

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

H623

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2012—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Phil Gingrey	9/5	9/7	India		218.00		(³)				218.00
	9/7	9/8	Azerbaijan		373.00		(³)				373.00
	9/8	9/10	Austria		708.00		(³)				708.00
	8/18	8/20	Spain		320.50		(³)				320.50
	8/20	8/22	Germany		593.04		(³)				593.04
Hon. Adam Kinzinger	8/23	8/25	United Kingdom		586.00		(³)				586.00
	6/30	7/2	Slovakia		542.29		(³)				542.29
	7/2	7/4	Georgia		862.62		(³)				862.62
	7/4	7/4	Djibouti		342.04		(³)				342.04
	7/5	7/6	Spain		496.89		(³)				496.89
Committee total					10,029.55						10,029.55

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.³ Military air transportation.

HON. FRED UPTON, Chairman, Jan. 31, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1, AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Shannon Taylor	10/21	10/25	Uruguay		874.83		4,044.64		950.00		5,869.47
Returned per diem	10/21	10/25	Uruguay		(30.00)						(30.00)
Michelle Ash	10/21	10/25	Uruguay		874.83		4,044.64		1,000.51		5,919.98
Returned per diem	10/21	10/25	Uruguay		(156.08)						(156.00)
Felipe Mendoza	10/21	10/25	Uruguay		874.83		3,773.04		950.00		5,597.87
Returned per diem	10/21	10/25	Uruguay		(30.91)						(30.91)
Mary Neumayr	11/12	11/16	Switzerland		1,936.50		1,981.50				3,918.00
Returned per diem	11/12	11/16	Switzerland		(325.32)						(325.32)
Jacqueline Cohen	11/12	11/16	Switzerland		1,936.50		1,981.50				3,918.00
Returned per diem	11/12	11/16	Switzerland		(220.00)						(220.00)
David Redl	12/3	12/7	United Arab Emirates		1,245.78		2,538.70		343.20		4,127.68
Shawn Chang	12/3	12/7	United Arab Emirates		1,245.78		2,538.70				3,784.48
Returned per diem	12/3	12/7	United Arab Emirates		(130.00)						(130.00)
Roger Sherman	12/3	12/7	United Arab Emirates		1,245.78		2,538.70				3,784.48
Returned per diem	12/3	12/7	United Arab Emirates		(261.00)						(261.00)
Committee total					9,081.52		23,441.42		3,243.71		35,766.65

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. FRED UPTON, Chairman, Jan. 31, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1, AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Stevan Pearce	11/8	11/12	Egypt		175.00						175.00
	11/12	11/12	England		175.00		19,524.60		218.66		19,743.26
Committee total					175.00		19,524.60		218.66		19,918.26

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JEB HENSARLING, Chairman, Jan. 30, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1, AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Dennis Halpin	10/9	10/13	China		911.00		10,983.80				11,894.80
	10/13	10/16	South Korea		987.00		(⁴)				987.00
	10/16	10/19	Japan		1,545.00		(⁴)				1,545.00
Janice Kaguyutan	10/9	10/13	China		886.00		14,237.00				15,123.00
	10/13	10/16	South Korea		877.00		(⁴)				877.00
Douglas Anderson	10/9	10/13	China		851.00		11,018.80				11,869.80
	10/13	10/16	South Korea		987.00		(⁴)				987.00
	10/16	10/19	Japan		1,439.00		(⁴)				1,439.00
Hon. Karen Bass	10/6	10/7	Ghana		319.00		(³)				319.00
	10/7	10/11	Gabon		2,100.00		(³)				2,100.00
	10/11	10/13	Botswana		405.00		630.00				1,035.00
Hon. Russ Carnahan	10/13	10/14	Senegal		285.00		7,039.00				7,324.00
	10/6	10/7	Ghana		319.00		(³)				319.00
	10/7	10/11	Gabon		2,100.00		(³)				2,100.00
Hon. David Cicilline	10/11	10/13	Botswana		405.00		630.00				1,035.00
	10/13	10/14	Senegal		285.00		3,400.70				3,685.70
	11/17	11/19	Japan		245.00		14,716.10				245.00
Hon. Chris Smith	11/19	11/21	Taiwan		247.00		(⁴)				247.00
	12/6	12/9	Bolivia		401.47		3,471.90				3,873.37
Sheri Rickert	12/6	12/9	Bolivia		427.69		122.99				550.68
Hon. Jeff Duncan	11/18	11/19	Afghanistan				(³)				
	11/19	11/20	Bahrain		439.65		11,581.70				12,021.35
	11/18	11/18	United Arab Emirates		194.66		(⁴)				194.66
Alan Makovsky	12/7	12/9	Bahrain		150.00						

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1, AND DEC. 31, 2012—
Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Committee total				16,806.47		16,806.47		77,831.99			94,638.46

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

³ Military air transportation.

⁴ Commercial air fare.

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, Jan. 31, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☐

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. DOC HASTINGS, Chairman, Jan. 30, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Jason Chaffetz	10/5	10/7	Germany		247.00		8,023.90				8,270.90
James Lewis	10/5	10/7	Germany		247.00		1,821.70				2,068.70
Hon. Jason Chaffetz	11/17	11/18	United Arab Emirates		194.66						194.66
	11/18	11/19	Afghanistan								
	11/19	11/21	Bahrain		439.65		11,713.50				12,153.15
Thomas Alexander	11/17	11/18	United Arab Emirates		194.66						194.66
	11/18	11/19	Afghanistan								
	11/19	11/21	Bahrain		439.65		11,713.50				12,153.15
Delegation expenses								2,636.81			2,636.81
Committee total											37,672.03

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA, Chairman, Jan. 28, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON RULES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. David Dreier	10/6	10/13	Africa		944.00		6,441.00				7,385.00
Bradley Smith	10/6	10/13	Africa		944.00		6,441.00				7,385.00
Rachael Leman	10/6	10/13	Africa		944.00		5,740.00				6,684.00
Hugh Halpern	10/14	10/16	Belgium		546.00		2,076.90				2,622.90
Miles Lackey	10/14	10/16	Belgium		546.00		2,076.90				2,622.90
Hugh Halpern	10/16	10/19	United Kingdom		1,497.00						1,497.00
Miles Lackey	10/16	10/19	United Kingdom		1,497.00						1,497.00
Hon. Pete Sessions	11/30	12/2	Mexico		190.00			503.00			693.00
Hon. Jared Polis	11/30	12/2	Mexico		190.00			442.00			632.00
Committee total											31,018.80

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. PETE SESSIONS, Chairman, Jan. 30, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Brad Miller	10/14	10/15	India		109.00		(³)				109.00
	10/15	10/16	India		126.00		(³)				126.00
	10/16	10/17	India		109.00		(³)				109.00
	10/17	10/18	Afghanistan		56.00		(³)				56.00
Neil Canfield	11/25	11/30	United Arab Emirates		2,133.30		7,655.70				9,789.00
					2,533.30		7,655.70				10,189.00

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

³ Military air transportation.

HON. RALPH M. HALL, Jan. 29, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Jeff Miller	11/8	11/12	Czech Republic		544.00		5,278.96		1,154.21		6,977.17
Committee total					544.00		5,278.96		1,154.21		6,977.17

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JEFF MILLER, Chairman, Jan. 29, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Ron Kind	10/17	10/18	Afghanistan		56.00						56.00
	10/13	10/17	India		1,065.63						1,065.63
Hon. Erik Paulsen	11/17	11/18	United Arab Emirates		194.66		3,152.26				33,152.26
	11/18	11/19	Afghanistan		439.95						439.95
	11/19	11/21	Bahrain				11,132.70				11,132.70
Committee total					1,756.24		44,284.96				46,041.020

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. DAVE CAMP, Chairman, Jan. 31, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Darren Dick	10/14	10/15	Middle East		485.00						
	10/15	10/16	Middle East		267.00						
	10/16	10/18	Middle East		737.64						
	10/18	18/19	Middle East		493.00						
Commercial Airfare							10,523.20				12,505.84
Heather Molino	10/14	10/15	Middle East		485.00						
	10/15	10/16	Middle East		267.00						
	10/16	10/18	Middle East		737.64						
	10/18	18/19	Middle East		493.00						
Commercial Airfare							10,523.20				12,505.84
Geof Kahn	10/14	10/15	Middle East		485.00						
	10/15	10/16	Middle East		267.00						
	10/16	10/18	Middle East		737.64						
	10/18	18/19	Middle East		493.00						
Commercial Airfare							10,523.20				12,505.84
Darren Dick	10/25	10/27	Eurasia		501.10						
	10/27	10/29	Eurasia		595.76						
	10/29	10/30	Eurasia		359.12						
	10/30	11/1	Eurasia		731.04						
Commercial Airfare							4,602.60				6,789.62
Sarah Geffroy	10/25	10/27	Eurasia		501.10						
	10/27	10/29	Eurasia		595.76						
	10/29	10/30	Eurasia		359.12						
	10/30	11/1	Eurasia		731.04						
Commercial Airfare							4,602.60				6,789.62
Hon. Mike Rogers	12/7	12/9	Middle East		1,545.18						
	12/9	12/10	Middle East		485.00						
	12/10	12/11	Europe		353.21						2,383.39
Hon. Dutch Ruppersberger	12/7	12/9	Middle East		1,545.18						
	12/9	12/10	Middle East		485.00						
	12/10	12/11	Europe		353.21						2,383.39
Hon. Devin Nunes	12/7	12/9	Middle East		1,545.18						
	12/9	12/10	Middle East		485.00						
	12/10	12/11	Europe		353.21						2,383.39
Hon. Michael Conaway	12/7	12/9	Middle East		1,545.18						
	12/9	12/10	Middle East		485.00						
	12/10	12/11	Europe		353.21						2,383.39
Hon. Rodney P. Frelinghuysen	12/7	12/9	Middle East		1,545.18						
	12/9	12/10	Middle East		485.00						
	12/10	12/11	Europe		353.21						2,383.39
Michael Allen	12/7	12/9	Middle East		1,545.18						
	12/9	12/10	Middle East		485.00						
	12/10	12/11	Europe		353.21						2,383.39
Heather Molino	12/7	12/9	Middle East		1,545.18						
	12/9	12/10	Middle East		485.00						
	12/10	12/11	Europe		353.21						2,383.39
Susan Phalen	12/7	12/9	Middle East		1,545.18						
	12/9	12/10	Middle East		485.00						
	12/10	12/11	Europe		353.21						2,383.39
Jamil Jaffer	12/7	12/9	Middle East		1,545.18						
	12/9	12/10	Middle East		485.00						
	12/10	12/11	Europe		353.21						2,383.39

"In accordance with title 22, United State Code, Section 1754(b)(2), information as would identify the foreign countries in which Committee Members and staff have traveled is omitted."

Committee total 81,720.26

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.³ Military air transportation.

HON. MIKE ROGERS of Michigan, Chairman, Jan. 31, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Steve Cohen	9/28	10/2	Georgia	Lari	1,129.00		14,550.00				15,679.00
Paul Carter	9/23	9/27	Poland	Zloty	1,028.00		17,118.10				18,146.10
	9/28	10/3	Georgia	Lari	1,608.00						1,608.00
	12/2	12/8	Ireland	Euro	2,433.00		1,295.80				12,631.23
Winsome Packer	9/28	10/3	Georgia	Lari	1,815.43		10,815.80				12,631.23
Robert Hand	10/4	10/8	Albania	Lek	867.00		3,603.50				4,470.50
Orest Deychakivsky	10/25	10/30	Ukraine	Hryvnia	1,789.58		7,856.20				9,645.78
	10/30	11/1	Germany	Euro	643.35						643.35
Daniel Redfield	10/25	10/30	Ukraine	Hryvnia	1,650.75		8,300.00				9,950.75
	10/30	11/1	Germany	Euro	643.36						643.35
Mischa Thompson	9/30	10/5	Poland	Zloty	1,285.00		2,713.70				3,998.70
	10/5	10/7	France	Euro	991.00						991.00
	11/14	11/17	Austria	Euro	906.00		1,790.10				2,696.10
	12/1	12/3	Spain	Euro	280.00		2,405.60				2,685.60
	12/3	12/7	Ireland	Euro	2,095.23						2,095.23
Erika Schlager	9/20	9/23	Austria	Euro	1,130.00		2,248.60				3,378.60
	10/23	10/4	Poland	Zloty	2,714.00						2,714.00
	10/23	10/26	Germany	Euro	1,044		1,963.10				3,007.10
	11/26	11/30	Czech Republic	Koruna	1,564.00		1,705.20				3,269.20
Janice Helwig	9/23	10/4	Poland	Zloty	3,167.00						3,167.00
	10/4	10/6	Albania	Lek	578.00		883.00				1,461.00
	11/6	11/8	Slovenia	Euro	286.00		816.40				1,102.40
	12/2	12/8	Ireland	Euro	2,400.00		2,131.80				4,531.80
	10/6	12/21	Austria	Euro	19,472.03		3,134.60				22,606.63
Michael Ochs	9/27	10/4	Poland	Zloty	2,799.00		1,464.50				3,263.50
Alex Johnson	8/1	8/6	Poland	Zloty	1,285.00		5,456.30				6,741.30
Allison Hollabaugh	9/27	10/2	Poland	Zloty	1,277.37		1,495.50				2,772.87
Shelly Han	10/15	10/18	Austria	Euro	1,193.00		3,297.70				4,490.70
Committee total					57,074.09		95,045.50				152,119.59

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

Mr. MARK MILOSCH, Jan. 31, 2013.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

500. A letter from the Attorney, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's "Major" final rule — Ability-to-Repay and Qualified Mortgage Standards Under the Truth in Lending Act (Regulation Z) [CFPB-2011-0008; CFPB-2012-0022] (RIN: 3170-AA17) received February 15, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

501. A letter from the Attorney, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's "Major" final rule — Mortgage Servicing Rules Under the Truth in Lending Act (Regulation Z) [Docket No.: CFPB-2012-0033] (RIN: 3170-AA14) received February 15, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

502. A letter from the Attorney, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's "Major" final rule—Mortgage Servicing Rules Under the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (Regulation X) [Docket No.: CFPB-2012-0034] (RIN: 3170-AA14) received February 15, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

503. A letter from the Attorney, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's "Major" final rule—Loan Originator Compensation Requirements Under the Truth in Lending Act (Regulation Z) [Docket No.: CFPB-2012-0037] (RIN: 3170-AA13) received February 15, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

504. A letter from the Director, Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule—Guarantees for Bonds Issued for Community or Economic Development (RIN: 1559-AA01) received February 20, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

505. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's Alternative Fuel Vehicle program report for FY 2012; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

506. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting consistent with the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Pub. L. 107-243), the Authorization for the Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 1991 (Pub. L. 102-1), and in order to keep the Congress fully informed, a report prepared by the Department of State for the October 23, 2012—December 21, 2012 reporting period including matters relating to post-liberation Iraq, pursuant to Public Law 107-243, section 4(a) (116 Stat. 1501); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

507. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification that the national emergency with respect to the Government of Cuba's destruction of two unarmed U.S.-registered civilian aircraft in international airspace north of Cuba on February 24, 1996, as amended and expanded on February 26, 2004, is to continue in effect beyond March 1, 2013, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); (H. Doc. No. 113-11); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

508. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting waiver of requirement to certify conditions under Section 203 of the Enhanced Partnership with Pakistan Act of 2009; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

509. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting a notification that the last elements of a deployment of approximately 40 additional U.S. military personnel has entered Niger with the consent of the Government of Niger; (H. Doc. No. 113-12); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following

titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. FOXX (for herself, Mr. KLINE, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. McKEON, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. SALMON, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. MESSER, Mrs. ELLMERS, and Mr. STIVERS):

H.R. 803. A bill to reform and strengthen the workforce investment system of the Nation to put Americans back to work and make the United States more competitive in the 21st century; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Agriculture, Veterans' Affairs, Energy and Commerce, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COFFMAN:

H.R. 804. A bill to cancel the 251A sequester for the revised security category and to provide for a reduced spending plan with respect to the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. PRICE of Georgia (for himself and Mr. KIND):

H.R. 805. A bill to repeal certain changes to contracts with Medicare Quality Improvement Organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BROWNLEY of California:

H.R. 806. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the requirement for annual reports on Comptroller General reviews of the accuracy of Department of Veterans Affairs medical budget submissions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MCCLINTOCK (for himself, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. PRICE of

Georgia, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. COLE, Mr. YOUNG of Indiana, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Ms. FOXX, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. BUCSHON, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. LABRADOR, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. BENTIVOLIO, and Mr. SCHWEIKERT):

H.R. 807. A bill to require that the Government prioritize all obligations on the debt held by the public in the event that the debt limit is reached; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. HAHN, Mr. POLIS, Ms. CLARKE, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. MOORE):

H.R. 808. A bill to establish a Department of Peacebuilding; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. BUCSHON:

H.R. 809. A bill to provide for improvement of field emergency medical services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. HANABUSA:

H.R. 810. A bill to grant the Secretary of Defense the authority to transfer funding under a continuing resolution, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Mr. NADLER):

H.R. 811. A bill to add the 9/11 Health and Compensation Programs to the list of exempt programs under PAYGO; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. HAHN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CLAY, Mr. HOLT, Mr. MORAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. KEATING, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. COOPER, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 812. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve education and prevention related to campus sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. MILLER of Florida (for himself and Mr. MICHAUD):

H.R. 813. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for advance appropriations for certain discretionary accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. MOORE (for herself, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H.R. 814. A bill to reauthorize and amend the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families and related programs; to the Committee on Ways

and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. OWENS:

H.R. 815. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make certain dividends and distributions paid to individuals from certain small businesses exempt from tax to the extent of the increased wages of the small business; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. RIBBLE (for himself, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. PETRI, and Mr. MCKINLEY):

H.R. 816. A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to allow intraagency transfers of funds to provide more flexibility for the agency to comply with a presidential sequestration order for fiscal year 2013 or 2014; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. SMITH of Washington (for himself and Mr. REICHERT):

H.R. 817. A bill to further the mission of the Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative Advisory Committee by continuing its development of policy recommendations and technical solutions on information sharing and interoperability, and enhancing its pursuit of benefits and cost savings for local, State, tribal, and Federal justice agencies; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TIPTON (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. LAMBOURN, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. LABRADOR, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. PEARCE, and Mr. DAINES):

H.R. 818. A bill to address the bark beetle epidemic, drought, deteriorating forest health conditions, and high risk of wildfires on National Forest System land and land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management in the United States by expanding authorities established in the Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003 to provide emergency measures for high-risk areas identified by such States, to make permanent Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management authority to conduct good-neighbor cooperation with States to reduce wildfire risks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MILLER of Michigan (for herself, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. GOODLATTE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. ISSA, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. HARPER, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. DELANEY):

H. Res. 77. A resolution establishing an academic competition in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics among students in Congressional districts; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida:

H. Res. 78. A resolution expressing support for designation of July as National Sarcoma Awareness Month; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. FATTAH (for himself and Mr. COBLE):

H. Res. 79. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of International Water Safety Day; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LIPINSKI (for himself, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. HONDA, Mr. TONKO, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Mr. BARTON, Mr. PETERS of California, Mr. MATHESSON, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. HOLT, and Mr. LEWIS):

H. Res. 80. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Engineers Week; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Ms. FOXX:

H.R. 803.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. COFFMAN:

H.R. 804.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The power of Congress enumerated in Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution "to provide for the common Defense", "to raise and support Armies", "to provide and maintain a Navy", "to make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces", and "to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the militia".

By Mr. PRICE of Georgia:

H.R. 805.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 9, Clause 7

Imposes Congressional accountability for the spending of the other branches of government. Congress has the duty to fund and provide oversight to the federal administrative agencies, including the Department of Health and Human Services and direct the manner in which they expend taxpayer funds.

By Ms. BROWNLEY of California:

H.R. 806.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. MCCLINTOCK:

H.R. 807.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 2 of the United States Constitution, which confer on Congress the power to collect and manage revenue for the payment of debts owed by the United States and to borrow money on the credit of the United States.

Article 1, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 2 United States Constitution:

"The Congress shall have the power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imports and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imports and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow money on credit of the United States;"

By Ms. LEE of California:
H.R. 808. Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. BUCSHON:

H.R. 809.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. HANABUSA:

H.R. 810.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress "to provide for the common Defence", "to raise and support Armies", "to provide and maintain a Navy" and "to make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces" as enumerated in Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. KING of New York:

H.R. 811.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 812.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18, which reads: The Congress shall have Power * * * To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. MILLER of Florida:

H.R. 813.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Ms. MOORE:

H.R. 814.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. OWENS:

H.R. 815.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Sections 7 and 8, of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. RIBBLE:

H.R. 816.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section, 9, Clause 7.

By Mr. SMITH of Washington:

H.R. 817.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8. " . . . provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States. . . "

By Mr. TIPTON:

H.R. 818.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV Section 3 clause 2 United States Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS TO PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 31: Mr. MEEKS.

H.R. 32: Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. RUSH, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. AMODEI, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. YOHIO, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. ISRAEL, and Mr. LIPINSKI.

H.R. 35: Mr. PALAZZO.

H.R. 55: Mr. YOHIO and Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.

H.R. 60: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 69: Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 104: Mr. DESANTIS.

H.R. 111: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. CONYERS.

H.R. 129: Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Ms. PINGREE of Maine.

H.R. 130: Mr. JONES.

H.R. 131: Ms. PINGREE of Maine.

H.R. 137: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. COHEN, Mr. DEUTCH, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. BASS, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 138: Mr. COHEN, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BASS, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. CAPPS, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.

H.R. 141: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. WAXMAN, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 142: Mr. LARSEN of Washington and Mr. WAXMAN.

H.R. 147: Mr. YOHIO and Mrs. HARTZLER.

H.R. 148: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Mr. MARKEY.

H.R. 149: Mr. YOHIO and Mr. COTTON.

H.R. 164: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. MICA, Mr. COTTON, Mr. SOUTHERLAND, Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. YOHIO.

H.R. 182: Mr. CAPUANO and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 183: Mr. CARSON of Indiana and Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 184: Mr. CARSON of Indiana and Mr. HANNA.

H.R. 194: Mr. PETERS of Michigan, Mr. DINGELL, and Mr. CONYERS.

H.R. 200: Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 234: Mr. JONES.

H.R. 239: Mr. YOHIO, Mr. MEADOWS, and Mr. BURGESS.

H.R. 282: Mr. MEADOWS and Mr. GOODLATTE.

H.R. 284: Mr. YOHIO.

H.R. 292: Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 309: Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. LONG, and Mr. MEADOWS.

H.R. 311: Mr. POMPEO.

H.R. 317: Mr. SOUTHERLAND.

H.R. 321: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. VEASEY, and Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 322: Mr. GARDNER, Mr. SCALISE, and Mr. STOCKMAN.

H.R. 324: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 334: Mrs. WAGNER and Mr. MICA.

H.R. 335: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 347: Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. LANCE, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 351: Mr. RENACCI, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. Holding, Mr. BARLETTA, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. MEADOWS.

H.R. 354: Mr. COSTA, Ms. MOORE, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 357: Mr. ROSS, Mr. HUNTER, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.

H.R. 358: Mr. KLINE, Mr. KIND, and Mr. JOYCE.

H.R. 360: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. CHU, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. WATT, and Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 367: Mr. PITTINGER and Mr. YOUNG of Florida.

H.R. 376: Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. LOEBACK.

H.R. 377: Mr. PETERSON, Mr. CARNEY, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. BARBER, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. MURPHY of Florida.

H.R. 392: Mr. FARR and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 398: Mr. MURPHY of Florida.

H.R. 399: Mr. TAKANO and Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 410: Mr. LUCAS.

H.R. 416: Mr. FORBES, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. PITTINGER, and Mr. MULVANEY.

H.R. 419: Mr. STOCKMAN and Mr. ANDREWS.

H.R. 427: Mr. TIERNEY, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H.R. 435: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.

H.R. 436: Mr. PERRY, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. FORBES, Mr. Barr, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. MEADOWS, and Mr. PITTINGER.

H.R. 445: Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. HANNA, Mr. LATHAM, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, and Mr. MEEHAN.

H.R. 454: Mr. GERLACH.

H.R. 482: Mr. HIGGINS.

H.R. 485: Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. SCHWARTZ, and Mr. LANGEVIN.

H.R. 495: Mr. LOEBACK, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. JONES, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. HANNA, Mr. MORAN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. PAULSEN, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. GERLACH, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, and Ms. SLAUGHTER.

H.R. 497: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. WESTMORELAND, and Ms. DUCKWORTH.

H.R. 498: Mr. PEARCE, Ms. KAPTUR, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. HANABUSA, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. WATT, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. CLYBURN, Mrs. NEGRET MCLEOD, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. HOYER, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. RAHALL, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. RICHMOND, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. CLARKE, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. McGOVERN.

H.R. 503: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 507: Ms. SINEMA.

H.R. 513: Ms. EDWARDS.

H.R. 515: Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 519: Mr. McDERMOTT, Ms. MENG, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. RUSH, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, and Mr. HINOJOSA.

H.R. 523: Mr. CALVERT, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. SALMON, Mr. BARBER, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. FORBES, Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. McHENRY, Mr. ROTHFUS, Mr. HUNTER, and Mr. LYNCH.

H.R. 530: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa and Ms. DUCKWORTH.

H.R. 539: Mr. RUSH and Ms. MATSUI.

H.R. 540: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. POCAN, and Mr. DOYLE.

H.R. 541: Mr. DINGELL.

H.R. 543: Mr. MEEHAN, Ms. HAHN, Mr. AMODEI, Ms. DELAUNO, Mr. LOEBACK, Mr. PALAZZO, and Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 544: Mr. STIVERS.

H.R. 557: Mr. McCaul, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. PALAZZO, and Mr. JOYCE.

H.R. 559: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. BENISHEK, and Ms. DUCKWORTH.

H.R. 563: Mr. LOEBACK.

H.R. 564: Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 565: Mr. PERLMUTTER and Mr. MARKEY.

H.R. 567: Mr. JORDAN and Mr. MEADOWS.
 H.R. 568: Mr. JORDAN.
 H.R. 569: Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, and Mr. O'ROURKE.
 H.R. 570: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio and Mr. O'ROURKE.
 H.R. 576: Mr. CARTER and Mr. SALMON.
 H.R. 578: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. WESTMORELAND.
 H.R. 580: Mr. SHUSTER and Mr. CHAFFETZ.
 H.R. 582: Mr. STEWARD, Mr. YOHIO, Mr. FORBES, Mr. DUFFY, Mr. COTTON, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. BONNER, Mr. AMODEI, Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. PITTS, and Mr. MULVANEY.
 H.R. 594: Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. HALL, Mr. PETERSON, Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. Carolyn B. Maloney of New York, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RUNYAN, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. KING of New York, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. OWENS, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BACHUS, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. HOLT, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
 H.R. 595: Mr. HONDA and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
 H.R. 607: Mr. FORBES, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. STIVERS, and Mr. FORTENBERRY.
 H.R. 621: Mr. POSEY, Mr. DESANTIS, and Ms. GRANGER.
 H.R. 627: Mr. MORAN, Ms. MOORE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. WALZ, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. VARGAS.
 H.R. 632: Mr. BUCSHON.
 H.R. 635: Mr. GARDNER and Mr. STIVERS.
 H.R. 637: Mr. GARRETT and Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina.
 H.R. 645: Ms. CHU, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.
 H.R. 650: Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. MORAN, and Ms. NORTON.
 H.R. 657: Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. PEARCE.
 H.R. 661: Mr. TONKO and Ms. SPEIER.
 H.R. 662: Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. BRADY of Texas, and Mrs. BLACKBURN.
 H.R. 668: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
 H.R. 669: Ms. SPEIER.
 H.R. 671: Mr. POLIS and Mr. ELLISON.
 H.R. 681: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. PITTS.

H.R. 683: Mr. KILMER, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. QUIGLEY.
 H.R. 693: Mr. DOYLE, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, and Mr. HECK of Nevada.
 H.R. 699: Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. KEATING, Mr. TIERNEY, Ms. MOORE, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. SWALWELL of California.
 H.R. 710: Mr. MCGOVERN and Mr. POCAN.
 H.R. 718: Mr. SCALISE, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. LONG, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. FINCHER, and Mr. KING of Iowa
 H.R. 719: Mr. TONKO.
 H.R. 720: Mr. VARGAS.
 H.R. 721: Mr. BACHUS and Mr. GARAMENDI.
 H.R. 726: Mr. GRIJALVA.
 H.R. 729: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
 H.R. 730: Mr. COLLINS of New York.
 H.R. 738: Mrs. HARTZLER and Mr. ENYART.
 H.R. 751: Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. YOHIO, and Mrs. MILLER of Michigan.
 H.R. 752: Mr. MOORE.
 H.R. 755: Mr. REED, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. RUNYAN, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. HOLT, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. HANNA, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Ms. SLAUGHTER.
 H.R. 756: Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, and Mr. GARRETT.
 H.R. 763: Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. BARR, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. BARROW of Georgia, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. STOCKMAN, and Mr. SCHOCK.
 H.R. 772: Mr. ENGEL.
 H.R. 774: Mr. STIVERS.
 H.R. 780: Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. JONES, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. MEADOWS, and Mr. HUNTER.
 H.R. 785: Ms. ESHOO.
 H.R. 786: Mr. GRAYSON.
 H.R. 791: Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. SCHWARTZ, and Mr. GRIJALVA.
 H.R. 792: Mr. HUNTER, Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, and Mr. GRAYSON.
 H.R. 798: Mr. SABLAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HOLT, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. KEATING, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. NEGRETE McLEOD, Ms. BASS, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. HONDA, Mr.

GRIJALVA, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. LOEBACK, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, and Mr. DINGELL.

H.J. Res. 1: Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. CAMP, Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. FLORES, Mr. FORBES, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. ISSA, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. KLINE, Mr. LONG, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. ROSS, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. SCALISE, and Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.J. Res. 2: Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. CAMP, Mr. COLE, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. FLORES, Mr. FORBES, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. ISSA, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. KLINE, Mr. LONG, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. MESSER, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. NOEM, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. ROSS, Mr. ROTHFUS, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. SALMON, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. TIBERI, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.J. Res. 21: Mr. LYNCH.

H.J. Res. 28: Mr. JONES and Mr. NUNNELEE.

H. Con. Res. 12: Ms. CHU and Mr. ELLISON.

H. Con. Res. 17: Ms. LEE of California, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. MOORE, Mr. RUSH, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. LEWIS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. FATTAH, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. WATT, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H. Res. 10: Mr. ENYART, Mr. LEWIS, and Mr. BUTTERFIELD.

H. Res. 24: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. WOLF, Mr. MEADOWS, and Mrs. DAVIS of California.

H. Res. 30: Mr. LATHAM, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. DOGGETT, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. PETERS of California, Mr. GARCIA, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. ANDREWS, Mrs. NEGRETE McLEOD, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. CHU.

H. Res. 71: Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. PIERLUISI, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. ROSS.